

HISTORICAL SKETCH  
OF THE  
ZABRISKIE HOMESTEAD  
(REMOVED 1877),  
FLATBUSH, L. I.,  
WITH  
*BIOGRAPHICAL ACCOUNTS OF SOME OF THOSE WHO  
HAVE RESIDED IN IT.*

BY  
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# THE ZABRISKIE HOMESTEAD.



“ All that inhabit this great earth,  
Whatever be their rank or worth,  
Are kindred, and allied by birth,  
And made of the same clay.”



## PREFACE.

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THE author has undertaken the preparation of this sketch with no other object than the satisfaction which is derived from research in local history, and the desire to place in a permanent form those minutiae which will be of interest to future generations.

It is with feelings of pleasure that he makes this slight contribution toward the preservation of the memory of one of the oldest landmarks in the town of Flatbush. The visible evidences of the handiwork of our Dutch ancestry are becoming year by year so rapidly diminished, that any effort to preserve them must be looked upon with favor by those who maintain a respectful regard for the founders of the town.

An appreciation of the value of the beneficent influence of the free institutions of the fatherland, not only upon New York and vicinity but upon the nation at large and upon its mode of government, is shown by many of their most learned citizens who do not attribute their existence here to Dutch immigrants. How much more, then, does it become those

whose ancestry is almost wholly Dutch to preserve the minutiae of their history, which, if neglected, become more liable to complete oblivion!

Longfellow, in his recent poem entitled "Keramos," has given the following beautiful description of the fatherland, a description which none of those who acknowledge their filial relationship to the Netherlands should be able to read without feelings of pride:

"What land is this, that seems to be  
A mingling of the land and sea?  
This land of sluices, dikes, and dunes?  
This water-net, that tessellates  
The landscape? this unending maze  
Of gardens, through whose latticed gates  
The imprisoned pinks and tulips gaze;  
Where in long summer afternoons  
The sunshine, softened by the haze,  
Comes streaming down as through a screen;  
Where over fields and pastures green  
The painted ships float high in air,  
And over all and everywhere  
The sails of windmills sink and soar  
Like wings of sea-gulls on the shore?

"See! every house and room is bright  
With glimmers of reflected light  
From plates that on the dresser shine;  
Flagons to foam with Flemish beer,



Or sparkle with the Rhenish wine,  
And pilgrim flasks with fleur-de-lis,  
And ships upon a rolling sea,  
And tankards pewter-topped, and queer  
With grotesque mask and musketeer!  
Each hospitable chimney smiles  
A welcome from its painted tiles;  
The parlor walls, the chamber floors,  
The stairways and the corridors,  
The borders of the garden walks,  
Are beautiful with fadeless flowers,  
That never droop in wind or showers,  
And never wither on their stalks."

It gives the author the greatest satisfaction to acknowledge the assistance he has received from various sources, and the universal kindness shown by every person to whom application for information has been made. To the Hon. Teunis G. Bergen and the Librarian and assistants at the rooms of the Long Island Historical Society, are thanks especially due. To Dr. John L. Zabriskie is he very greatly indebted for the unearthing of facts almost forgotten, and for the collection of the more recent genealogical data, the greater portion of which was furnished through his indefatigable energy, and without whose assistance they could not well have been collected. To the generosity of Mrs. Abby L. Zabriskie is due the publication of this book, she having borne the total expense of its printing and illustration.

One other must not be forgotten. Sarah Hicks, the colored woman, born a slave in the Zabriskie house, and still living, has been an important witness to events that occurred nearly a century ago, and has furnished recollections of people who have been seen by no other living person.

The Zabriskie genealogical list was prepared by the late Chancellor A. O. Zabriskie, of New Jersey, and the sketch of the Lott family by the late Jeremiah Lott, of Flatbush. They are both duly credited with these portions of the work.

P. L. SCHENCK.

FLATBUSH, NEW YORK, *March, 1881.*

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# HISTORICAL SKETCH.

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## THE OLD LINDEN-TREE.

“The poet says that noiseless fall  
Time’s feet, that tread on flowers;  
So, though we may the past recall,  
We ne’er can hold the hours.

“Yet landmarks lie on mother earth,  
And often may restore  
A memory of events whose birth  
Immortal product bore.

“Then be not slow to reverence  
The relics of a day  
That still will live in eminence  
When thou hast long been clay.”

W. L. K.

It can not be otherwise than with feelings of sadness that the older inhabitants of the town of Flatbush witness, one by one, the loss of those features of their village which have for so long a time constituted some of its predominant characteristics. The recent obliteration of several of the oldest monu-

mental relics, which have been looked upon for so many scores of years as calculated to resist the destructive influence of time, while regarded according to modern estimate as improvements, is by many looked upon with feelings of sorrow. To these the adage,

“Even this shall pass away,”

presents itself in its fullest force.

The commencement of a series of recent losses was that of the huge old linden-tree, which for more than two centuries stood, a silent sentinel, in the center of the village by the side of the old Zabriskie house, an equally ancient landmark, which was also recently removed, and which forms the subject of this sketch. As far as is known, there were in the village but three other trees of this species that are worthy of note on account of their age. One of these, of a more recent date, but very old, still stands in front of the residence of the late General P. S. Crooke, who showed commendable zeal in his efforts to preserve it. Another stood on the corner diagonally opposite the Zabriskie house, in front of what was once the residence of Mr. Michael Neefus—this tree was taken down some time during the period of his occupancy. A third, of some historical note, stood in front of the place now occupied by the residence of the late Hon. John A. Lott—this was taken down previous to 1834. Dr. Strong, in his “History of Flatbush,” has given a somewhat extended account of this tree, showing the estimation in which it was held during the Revolutionary War. These trees, the oldest in the town of which we have any record, were in all probability the first



that were planted here for ornamental purposes by the hand of man. They saw the town, of which they were a characteristic ornament, in its infancy a subject of Holland, and practically governed by the Dutch West India Company. They saw the colony wrested from the ownership of Holland, and, in 1664, surrendered by Governor Stuyvesant to the English; held by that nation until 1673; again, for about two years, subject to Dutch rule, only to be again surrendered to the English, and held by them until the great struggle for independence rendered it a portion of a republic. For an additional century had the linden-tree beside the old Zabris-kie house maintained its position, until, finally, during a storm of considerable severity, occurring September 27, 1876, it was blown down, and to-day is regretfully numbered with the things of the past. Beneath its shade took place many a varied scene of social pleasure, but beneath its boughs also took place many scenes that were sorrowful in their nature. One, which occurred during Revolutionary times, was the meeting of Major David Lenox, a friend of liberty and a prisoner, with his brothers Robert and William Lenox, who were loyal to King George (see Strong's "History of Flatbush," p. 157). They used every possible argument and inducement to persuade him to forsake the American cause, but without avail. He was met afterward by Mrs. Lloyd, who inquired as to the cause of his apparent distress. He told her that his brothers had been endeavoring to persuade him to forsake the Americans, "But," said he, "I will never do it." This tree, with its outspread arms, overshadowed a home the inmates of which it had seen gradually change from a

Dutch-speaking, plainly educated people, who could speak no English, to cultivated, English-speaking Americans, who can understand no word of the original language of their ancestors. It heard the musketry and cannon of a bloody battle in the early part of a struggle that gave freedom to a great nation. It saw generation after generation of colored men and women born in slavery ; it saw the system which held them in bondage peacefully expire. It saw in the home which stood beside it at least four of these men and women made free in advance of the termination of that system which made them slaves.\* It stood in dignified silence while the same end was accomplished in other parts of the country by terribly forcible means.

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### THE ZABRISKIE HOMESTEAD.

FOLLOWING rapidly upon the loss of the tree was the removal of the house itself, whose condition had, from age, become such as to render it undesirable as a residence. During the process of removal, we were accorded the pleasure of a visit to this oldest of village landmarks, which is now numbered with the things of the past. The original construction of this building could not have taken place less than two hundred or two hundred and twenty-five years ago. Its earliest history is clouded in obscurity, but tradition and circumstan-

\* See Kings County Surrogate's Office, Liber 1, p. 332.

tial evidence render it almost conclusive that it antedated the old Stryker house, nearly opposite, which bore on its gable the date of its construction—1696—and which had already been removed several years previous to 1842. The various repairs, improvements, and enlargements of the Zabriskie house had very considerably changed the original design, but many of its earliest characteristics remained. It was remodeled and largely rebuilt, about one hundred and twenty years ago, by Jacob Lefferts, who then owned and occupied it. As first built, it was forty-nine by twenty-one feet in dimensions, with a pitched roof slanting equally north and south. It was most substantially built, and the rafters, although greatly worm-eaten, had well withstood the test of time. When enlarged by Mr. Lefferts, a second and much-lengthened set of rafters was placed in the rear, leaving the old ones in position. This addition about doubled the room for occupation, and gave to the roof the sloping curve in the rear which was carried to within nine feet of the ground. Although the customary powerful beams, ten by twelve inches in dimensions, rough-hewn from the forest, supported the ground floor, only a few of those that supported the second floor were of the same size, the remainder being of more modern dimensions.

The process of demolishing this antique homestead revealed some curious secrets of ancient architecture; for instance, several specimens of the mortar used had been made with the common yellow clay so abundant in this region, while sand, which was equally abundant, was ignored. Experts to-day say that the former is the more durable, but modern masonry has discarded it on account of the greater

facility with which sand can be used. Another specimen of the mortar was intermingled with salt-meadow grass, which was used for the same purpose that hair is used to-day in the same material. This salt-meadow grass, or hay, in early times was esteemed of great value for the use of horses and cattle, and the salt-marsh lands on which it grew were considered more valuable than an equal quantity of upland, on account of the annual reproduction of a fresh crop without the necessity of intervening cultivation. These lands formed one of the most frequent subjects of dispute among the inhabitants, and even between the towns themselves.

Another thing of the past was the mode of manufacture of the laths on which this mortar was plastered ; instead of being sawed and of equal size, as are those of to-day, they seem all to have been split by hand, and, although they vary in width, their thickness is of great regularity.

The whole front of the building consisted of a brick wall sixteen inches in thickness, which, many years subsequent to its erection, had been pointed, painted red, and striped with white. Still later, it had been lathed and plastered. The brick, of which this wall and the original wall which separated the front from the rear rooms were composed, were much smaller than those of the present day. They were seven and one half inches long, three and one half wide, and one and one half thick. About the bases of the chimneys was found another unusual size of brick, which were eight and one half inches long, four wide, and two thick. The rear and west walls were of stone masonry, and of the same thickness, while the east side of the house was shingled and filled in with

brick. The evidence shows plainly that, originally, this was a brick house similar in construction to the old Stryker house, which stood on the opposite side of the street. The conservatory was added by Dr. John B. Zabriskie in 1847. In order to make the addition, it was found necessary to remove the cellar stairway. In its removal, its unique construction was shown. The steps consisted of the flat and long Dutch brick, imbedded in mortar made with oyster-shell lime. This mortar was found to be so exceedingly hard that the bricks would break before the mortar would give way.

One of the most interesting things exposed during its destruction was the marvelous ingenuity with which the various modern improvements and conveniences had been added to the originally plain and simply constructed house. In the mode of heating, for example, there were, first, the immense open fireplaces constructed of solid masonry, the brick of which, by their shape, indicated their early origin. These chimneys had in each instance been cut away some eight or ten inches, and the large open space filled in with modern brick, for the accommodation of an ordinary coal-grate, while these had been, still later, abandoned for the register, through which the heated air was conveyed from a modern furnace in the cellar, which furnace had only been placed there at a sacrifice of considerable superfluous foundation-wall. Still another seeming incongruity was the clay-mortar above spoken of, covered with a wall-paper of finest manufacture and most recent design.

In early times, the interior arrangement of this house did not materially differ from the generality of Dutch country

farm-houses. The following description will apply to the arrangement existing during the last century. First, we have the “kamer” (pronounced carmer), or combination of spare bedroom and parlor, with its large curtained bedstead and sanded floor; the “spinning-room,” with its spinning-wheels and other paraphernalia; the “spinning-room kametje,” or small bedroom adjoining the last; and the “milk-room” in the linter, an important locality—which embrace the principal rooms on the ground floor. The “cellar-kitchen,” adjoining which were the apartments of the slaves, was only used during the winter months; while, during the summer season, the cooking was done in a small building separated from the main house. Those who are familiar with the customs and arrangements of old Dutch farm-houses need not be told of the “smoke-house,” which was generally a part of the garret, partitioned off, for the preservation of hams that had undergone the process of being smoked in an out-door building. In this house, the inside “smoke-house” consisted of an immense cask, the interior of which contained numerous pegs, on which were hung the recently smoked hams. This cask was of unique construction, being built of heavy undressed staves, and of a size sufficiently large to preclude the possibility of its having been brought in by the doorway. It was undoubtedly built on the spot where it stood.

So many changes and alterations had been made by its various owners, that those familiar with the house at the time of its demolition would hardly recognize it as the place we describe. Not the least among its renovators was its latest owner; but the destroying effect of time was inevitable, and

he was finally, with reluctance, compelled to cause its removal. This was done between the 14th and 21st of November, 1877.

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## OWNERSHIP.

NOTWITHSTANDING the prominent location of this homestead, with its surrounding two acres of land, standing as it did in the center of a town which was, in early colonial times, of equal if not of greater importance than any other on Long Island, it has been impossible to trace its ownership previous to the beginning of the last century. The Flatbush town records, which might throw light on the subject, being in Dutch, are almost a sealed book to the modern investigator. The translation of these records, which should have been made many years ago, would at the present time be a difficult task. It is a work that will become more difficult as time advances, owing to the fact that their chirography and phraseology each year become more obsolete and farther removed from the reach of the modern scholar. Those landmarks, also, which might serve to locate the boundaries of the various early divisions of the lands of the town, are being slowly but steadily obliterated. It is exceedingly probable that, if these records could be intelligently searched, they would reveal the ownership of this ground to a time coëval with the first settlement of the town.

The house of which we write was not one of those which has been owned and occupied in a single family, descending

from father to son, without change in the name of the owner, as has been the case with other lands in its vicinity, although, for more than a century and a half, the title has been vested in some descendant of Jacob Lefferts.

Previous to his occupancy, the only name that we have been able to trace is that of Dr. John Nerbury, whose ownership is traditionary, and, although there is no doubt of his having resided there, we have been able to discover no documentary evidence of the fact. There was at the time of the destruction of the house an old closet, or cupboard, in one of the rooms, in which the Doctor, who is said to have practiced his profession in Flatbush, is reputed to have kept his medicines. There are several references to Dr. Nerbury in the old records, but most of them refer to him as residing at Brooklyn Ferry until 1715, at which time he sold a house and lot in Brooklyn to Johannes Sebring,\* and, according to Hon. T. G. Bergen, then removed to Staten Island. In 1710, while residing at the Brooklyn Ferry, he had indentured to him by Governor Hunter one of the Palatine children.† Among the records of the Reformed Church at New Utrecht, translated by Hon. T. G. Bergen, we find that on August 26, 1739, Jo-

\* See Liber 4, p. 115, Conveyances, Kings County Register's Office.

† See "Documentary History of New York," 8vo edition, vol. iii, p. 566. This was one of a large number of poor German Protestants, who came from the Lower Palatinate, between the years 1708 and 1714, under charge of the Government. Having been impoverished by war in their own country, they besought Queen Anne, of Great Britain, to accept them as settlers on her unoccupied territory in America. They came in considerable numbers, and were settled, under the auspices of the Government, in various places near the Hudson, notably the manor of Livingston.



hannes Nerbury and Elizabeth, his wife, were witnesses to the baptism of a child, a daughter of Elnathan and Sara Fish. Although there is no evidence in this record that Nerbury was at that time a resident of Flatbush, still it is probable that he was; and we have another record of a later date which says that, on Monday, September 2, 1751, Johannes Simense, widower, of Staten Island, was married to Libertje Nerberre (Elizabeth Nerbury), widow, of Flatbush, which shows that those of the name resided in the town even at that late date.

Following Dr. Nerbury, we find Mr. Jacob Lefferts in possession, which he retained until January 18, 1802, about one month previous to his death, when he conveyed it to his son-in-law, Bateman Lloyd. It then remained in the possession of Bateman Lloyd until his death, which occurred in 1814. He, by his will, left the property under consideration, as well as the rest of his real estate, to his wife during her life or widowhood, on the termination of either of which states the whole property was to be divided between his children. However, before either of these conditions terminated, Mrs. Lloyd, desiring the estate to be settled, for certain valuable considerations, released her claim to the real estate, and, in the division which followed, this house and the two acres of ground connected with it fell to the ownership of her daughter, Mrs. George A. Duryee, who was then a widow, a quit-claim deed from all those interested being given her, which deed is recorded in Liber 16, page 138, of the Kings County Register's Office. The points of interest in this deed are the following: It is from Lefferts W. Lloyd and Sarah, his wife,

Jeremiah Lott and Lydia, his wife, and Abigail Lloyd, to Catherine Duryee. It is dated February 2, 1825. By it they grant, etc., all that certain dwelling-house and lot, etc., of land in Flatbush, being part of the land and premises granted and conveyed by Jacob Lefferts and Ida, his wife, to the late Bateman Lloyd, deceased, in and by a certain indenture of release, executed in the presence of John Fish and B. Van Steenbergh, subscribing witnesses, bearing date of January 18, 1802,\* bounded easterly by the highway, northerly and westerly by land of heirs of Charles Clarkson, deceased, and southerly by the lane or public highway leading to New Utrecht, containing two acres, more or less, reserving to the aforesaid Abigail Lloyd the two easterly rooms on the first floor during her life, a reasonable annuity rent to be paid by the said Abigail.

Mrs. Duryee held possession for about four years, when, on the 14th day of March, 1829, she, in consideration of the sum of four thousand dollars, conveyed it to her brother-in-law, Mr. Jeremiah Lott. The amount of consideration seems large, considering the date, but showed an early appreciation of the subsequent value of its location. While occupied by Mrs. Duryee, a portion of the house was, for two and a half years, let to Mr. John T. Rhodes, his son, the late Rev. John T. Rhodes, having been born there.

During the tenure of Mr. Jeremiah Lott, it was, for about five years, let to the Hon. John A. Lott, who, during his early married life, resided in it.

\* We have been unable to find the release here referred to.

Upon the death of Mr. Jeremiah Lott, the property was bequeathed to his daughter, Mrs. Abby L. Zabriskie, who, for many years previous, had presided as its accomplished mistress. She, on the 26th day of August, 1869, conveyed the southerly half to her son, Dr. John L. Zabriskie, the land being then, for the first time, divided. Its present owners have erected fine residences upon their respective portions.

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## RELICS.

SOME of the heirlooms and relics of early colonial times that remained in the old house until the period of its destruction are of much interest. Among them is a mourning-ring of gold and black enamel, the inscription upon which shows it to have been made to commemorate the death of one of the junior members of the family of Jacob Lefferts. The inscription reads as follows: "Adriantje Lefferts ob. May 2 1773. Æ 12." On its inner surface are indistinctly traced certain letters, supposed to be the initials of the name of the person to whom the ring was presented.

Although Furman, in his "Antiquities of Long Island" (p. 161), says that it was customary to give these rings to each person who attended the funeral, yet we think that, in respect to the number of rings presented, he must have been in error, or why should we not find them more frequently preserved in the old and wealthy families of this vicinity? We have thus far been able to find record of but three others,

viz., one mentioned by Furman (*loc. cit.*), the occasion of the presentation of which was the funeral of the Earl of Bello-mont, who was at the time of his death Governor of the Province of New York. It is described as being a very heavy, massive gold ring, with the inscription, "Comes de Bello-mon."

The second instance found is in an account of the obsequies of Philip Livingston, who died in 1749.\* Funerals among the Dutch in New York in olden times, where it could possibly be afforded, were invariably of an expensive character. It was about this time, 1749, that the extravagance had attained its highest pitch. Presents were made of silk scarfs, silk handkerchiefs, gold mourning-rings, silver spoons; and immense quantities of wine and other liquors were consumed. Provision was made to entertain with feasting those who attended. It was but a few years subsequent to this that Governor William Livingston raised his voice against this unnecessary extravagance. These expensive and undesirable customs continued, however, until the commencement of the present century.

The third mourning-ring was made to commemorate the death of Miss Catharine Lefferts. She was a daughter of Leffert Lefferts, of Bedford, and died April 17, 1783, from the accidental discharge of a pistol.† The ring was composed of gold and enamel, and contained an inscription giving the name and date of death. The ring, or what remains of it (it

\* See Wooley's "Journal of a Residence in New York in 1679," Note 38, by Dr. E. B. O'Callaghan.

† See "Lefferts Family," page 92.

having met with an unfortunate accident), is in the possession of Mrs. Gertrude L. Vanderbilt, of Flatbush. It seems to us that the Long Island custom of presenting these rings is English rather than Dutch in origin, and investigation shows that it was exceptional in Kings County to give them to others than relatives of the deceased.

A relic that has been in the possession of the family for more than one hundred years, and that is greatly revered and prized by all its members, is a small white earthenware figure, which is certainly unique in appearance and manufacture. It might be taken as a representative of a female Esquimaux Indian, with a not very satisfactory representation of the Indian dress; it also gives the idea of a heathen idol. There are traditions with reference to it that have descended to the present time, but none that give any account of its origin.

One of the Dutch family Bibles is in itself an object of interest. It was printed at Dordrecht in 1736, and is consequently one hundred and forty-five years old. Its original owner, Jacob Lefferts, wrote his name in it in 1741, the year of his marriage, which occurred when he was twenty-three years of age. This book is now in possession of his great-great-grandson, the present owner of the site on which the house stood.

In early times, before there was regularly organized protection against fire, it was customary for each house to be provided with leathern or wooden buckets, which were always in readiness for carrying water in case of fire. In New York \*

\* See Miller's "New York in 1695," Gowan's edition, page 12.

city this system was introduced in 1658. At that time, every house with three fireplaces was required to have two, brewers were required to have six, and bakers three, under penalty of a fine of six shillings. Several of these buckets, that formerly belonged to Colonel Axtell, of Tory Revolutionary notoriety, were for many years preserved in this house. His name was painted upon them in gilt letters.

In the garret of the old house was to be found that collection of household relics so familiar to the frequenter of old Dutch houses. Antique chairs, candlesticks, spinning-wheels, and andirons were here, as elsewhere, of the number.

# BIOGRAPHIES.

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JACOB LEFFERTS.

1717-1802.

“ 'Tis Nature's plan  
The child should grow into the man,  
The man grow wrinkled, old, and gray,  
In youth the heart exults and sings,  
The pulses leap, the feet have wings;  
In age the cricket chirps and brings  
The harvest home of day.”

WE are about to speak of one, of whose early life so little is known that it seems almost impossible to consider him as having been at one time in that period of life in which, as the poet says, “the pulses leap.” We can only regard him as a man in and past the prime of life, so completely have all means of information concerning his youth and early manhood eluded our grasp. Jacob Lefferts, or, as he more frequently wrote his name, Jacobus Leffertse, who for many years owned and occupied the house recently re-

moved, was born May 9, 1717. He was a younger son of Peter Lefferts, of Flatbush, and a grandson of Leffert Pieterse, the progenitor of the extensive family of Lefferts. The fact of Jacob being a younger son was of importance to himself, at least, as, on that account, his father, in accordance with the ideas of the rights of primogeniture existing in that day, rather disregarded him when disposing of his real estate by will, the bulk being given to his older brother John. This will, which is on file, but not recorded, in the office of the Surrogate of New York, was made in the year 1755. In it, besides a bequest of money, he gives to his son Jacob one lot of meadow-land and one half of his interest in the brew-house, and names his son Jacob as one of his executors. This Peter Lefferts was born in Flatbush, May 13, 1680, and died in 1774. He was married to Ida Suydam, who was the mother of Jacob, of whom we write. Peter probably owned and occupied the farm now owned by one of his descendants, Mr. John Lefferts, of Flatbush.

The land that Jacob Lefferts devised by his last will must have been purchased by him or inherited from his wife, for, with the exception of one small lot, it did not come from his father.

It is sometimes stated that, at one time, Jacob Lefferts was engaged in storekeeping in Flatbush, but close investigation fails to reveal any evidence that such was the case. Although he spent his active life in the occupation of farming, he was not the owner of any extensive farm ; the principal portion of land that he cultivated belonged to the Reformed Dutch Church, from which corporation he rented it. It was situated



on the south side of East Broadway, opposite that now owned by Mr. Peter I. Nefus.

April 13, 1766, Jacob Lefferts and Catryna Vanderveer, his wife, were sponsors, or witnesses, at the baptism of a child, Jacob, son of Abraham Voorhees and Adriantje Lefferts, his wife.\*

Mr. Lefferts was among those who, in 1786, first associated themselves for the purpose of establishing in Flatbush an institution for the instruction of youth in the higher branches—an institution in which a classical education could be obtained. Their united efforts resulted in the incorporation of Erasmus Hall, one of the oldest academies in the State, of which he was one of the incorporators and trustees. In the list of contributors to the erection of the academy building, which list embraces the names of some of the most eminent men of that period, his name, with seven others, appears as subscribing £50, there being only two who subscribed larger amounts, viz., John Vanderbilt, £100, and Peter Lefferts, £60. This institution had been established but a few years when it became very celebrated throughout the country, and its reputation for efficiency was such that it attracted to its class-rooms students from many distant States and the West Indies.†

Jacob Lefferts's name (for £1 8s.) is among the Long Island subscribers to assist in repairing the Reformed Dutch church at New Millstone, New Jersey. These subscriptions were obtained just after the Revolutionary War, in response to an

\* Manuscript translation of Church Records, by Hon. T. G. Bergen.

† See Strong's "History of Flatbush."

appeal from the consistory, who described the church as having been partially destroyed and rendered useless by depredations committed during the war.\*

In 1754, he was commissioner of highways in the town of Flatbush. There are on file in the town-clerk's office records in Dutch of the opening of roads in the town while he held that office, one of which records some kindly disposed person has translated into English, and filed a copy of the translation.†

During the Revolutionary War his house was sacked and robbed by the British soldiery, or their Hessian assistants. The soldiers were expected, and such arrangements were made by the inhabitants of the town for their reception as were considered best adapted for the preservation of their property. Their arrival, however, is reported to have caused a very precipitate removal of Jacob Lefferts and his family. The dinner, of which they were about to partake, was left untouched on the table, and only sufficient time was allowed to deposit the family silver at the bottom of the well. On the troops taking possession of the town, his house was one of the first of those seized. Mr. Lefferts, with his family, during their absence, took refuge with a friend residing at Black Stump, in the town of Jamaica. He soon, however, returned, and, with the majority of the inhabitants, submitted and took the oath of allegiance to King George. But what a scene of destruction met his view! The house was a mass of confusion, the furniture destroyed, and the tall, even then old-

\* Rev. E. T. Corwin, Historical Discourse, 1866.

† Probably the late Jeremiah Lott.

fashioned clock crushed to pieces. It is not to be wondered at that the inhabitants of the town, finding themselves at the mercy of such a foe, should consent to make an unwilling submission.

Jacob Lefferts was twice married; first, May 30, 1741, to Catryna, or Catharine, Vanderveer. By this union he had ten children, only three of whom lived to reach maturity. These were Ida, born January 26, 1745, who married Rem Van Pelt, of New Utrecht; Jannetje, or Jane, born May 3, 1753, who married Peter Lefferts, of Flatbush; and Abigail, born January 12, 1759, who married Bateman Lloyd. His second wife, to whom it is supposed he was married in January, 1777, was Ida Vanderveer. There were no children by this union. Ida survived her husband five years, and died at an advanced age, February 24, 1807. The two wives, although both were Vanderveers, were not sisters. Catharine was the daughter of Dominicus Vanderveer,\* while Ida was the daughter of Cornelius, both of Flatbush.

Jacob Lefferts spoke both English and Dutch; his second wife spoke the latter only.

Jacob Lefferts was of a most kind and generous disposition, and was greatly beloved by his family, and respected in the community. He was a religious man, a member of the Reformed Dutch Church, in which he frequently held positions of honor and trust. He for several times served as elder. His Bible was his constant companion, and he took great pleasure in reading it. In his later years, he was accus-

\* See "Bergen Genealogy," p. 303. This differs from the account in "Lefferts Family," by the same author.

tomed to have his large Dutch Bible placed upon a small reading-table beside one of the east windows, when he would spend hours in its study. In this habit he was in after-years followed by his daughter.

In dress he was always neat and careful, and generally appeared in the broad-brimmed black hat so fashionable in his day. He had discarded the knee-breeches which were still generally worn by others on occasions of note. A long blue coat, with brass buttons, served for occasions where dress was required, while a suit of homespun material sufficed for daily use.

The death of Jacob Lefferts came unexpectedly. The tradition is that it resulted from the bite of a rat. The circumstances attending it are not a matter of record, but it is probable that the supervention of erysipelas upon some slight injury resulted fatally. About one month before his death, which occurred February 21, 1802, he had conveyed to his son-in-law, Bateman Lloyd, the homestead in which he resided, together with the two acres of land adjoining.

When, after his death, it was known among his conservative Dutch neighbors that he had by his will set all his slaves free,\* there was very considerable apprehension as to what the effect would be upon their own slaves. It was thought that its result would be to make them dissatisfied and envious. It was, however, about this time that manumissions in the county towns were occasionally made, as shown by the records of the town clerk's office.

\* See Liber 1, p. 332, of Wills, Kings County Surrogate's Office.

## BATEMAN LLOYD.

1756-1814.

MR. BATEMAN LLOYD, the subject of this biographical sketch, was born August 28, 1756, at Woodstown, Salem County, in the southern part of the State of New Jersey, in which vicinity his family had for many years resided. He was a son of Bateman Lloyd and Lydia Ware, and belonged to that branch of the Lloyd family that came to this country while William Penn was Governor of Pennsylvania. The Lloyds are a very ancient Welsh family, that trace their ancestry to the sixth century.\* Bateman Lloyd's family residence was about ten miles from Salem, the county seat, and about thirty-five miles from Philadelphia. As far as is known, he resided there until the breaking out of the Revolutionary War.

Not much has been ascertained regarding his father's family, on account of the lack of facility of obtaining information. He had one sister, Rebecca, who married Joseph Clark, a sea-captain, of Philadelphia, and had seven or eight children. He also had a brother Jacob, who had two children—Susan, who married Fowler, and Mary, who married Coles. Several members of these latter families died of yellow fever.

Although the Lloyd family had for several generations

\* "Lineage of the Lloyd and Carpenter Families."

adhered to the religious faith of the Quakers, Bateman's tendency was certainly toward that of the Moravians, whose church he attended when opportunity offered. While residing in New Jersey, after his marriage, he, however, more frequently attended the Presbyterian church, which was the one preferred by his wife, there being no Reformed Dutch church within convenient distance of their residence, this latter being the one that she more persistently adhered to, and which they both attended while in Flatbush. They were, however, both possessed of that quality of religion that made them respect the religion of others, although it might not strictly agree with their own.

Although not a native of Flatbush, he was for about fifteen years a resident there, and in 1802 became the owner of and resided in what subsequently became the Zabriskie homestead. The chain of circumstances that led him to make his permanent abode in this town contains several links that are of interest.

At the breaking out of the Revolutionary War he was in his nineteenth year. So great was his patriotic ardor that his Quaker principles did not prevent his taking an active part in the struggle. In an official list of the "officers and men of New Jersey in the Revolutionary War," prepared by the Adjutant-General of the State of New Jersey, the various positions that he occupied are set forth. He was First Lieutenant in Captain Kinsey's company, Fourth Battalion, Second Establishment, February 17, 1777. November 12, 1777, he was Captain in the same company. He was Captain in the Third Continental Regiment September 26, 1780. He

was also Captain in the Second Continental Regiment. He was taken prisoner February 27, 1778, and remained such until April 1, 1781, when he was exchanged. Subsequent to this he resigned. He was at one time captain in the New Jersey Militia, and held the position of forage-master at Salem.

Flatbush being a favorite place of the British for holding their prisoners, he, when taken, was fortunate enough to be sent there for safe-keeping. While there, his life must have been one of much privation, as is shown by the following letter, which sets forth in distinct terms some of the hardships and annoyances to which he, with his fellow-officers, was subjected:

LONG ISLAND, *September 15, 1780.*

SIR: The prisoners of war and state prisoners belonging to the State of New Jersey beg leave to remind your Excellency of our distressing situation. The petition to the Assembly in May last, which we inclosed under cover to your Excellency, we doubt not, has been laid before them; we, not hearing from them since, inclines us to think that a multiplicity of business, or some other cause, has prevented them from paying that attention to us that our urgent necessities required. 'Tis sixteen months since we received the last supply, great part of which was disposed of in paying our arrears, which has ever been the case during near four years' captivity which many of us have experienced, to the extreme prejudice of our minds, bodies, and estates: consequently, what might appear a tolerable supply at first, when our debts are paid, a few necessities purchased at the most extravagant prices, we generally find ourselves possessed of but a scanty pittance indeed.

We therefore humbly pray your Excellency will act the part of an advocate for us, that we may receive both a liberal and speedy supply, and, as

we are the immediate sufferers, we hope it will not be deemed presumptuous in us to say we think fifty pounds per man is the least that will answer to pay our debts and clothe us properly for the winter season, exclusive of what is due for our board, which has not been paid since the 20th of May, 1779.

We are, with the highest esteem and most perfect respect, your Excellency's most obedient and humble servants.

Signed, on behalf of the whole and at their request,

HENDRICK VAN BRUNT,

JOHN MERCER, *First Regiment.*

BATEMAN LLOYD, *Third Regiment.*

*His Excellency the Governor of New Jersey.\**

The situation in which he found himself, though unpleasant in many respects, did not cause him to employ his time with none effect. He was successful in engaging the affections and marrying the daughter of one of the prominent citizens of Flatbush.

Tradition has it, and without the slightest doubt truthfully, that, during a portion of, if not all, the time he was held as a prisoner, he was lodged in the old county jail, which was then located in Flatbush, and stood on the spot now occupied by the residence of Mr. Abraham Lott.

While lodged there, it is very probable that he was billeted upon the family of Mr. Jacob Lefferts, and that his parole, which only permitted him to walk through a certain limited portion of the town, necessarily included this residence. There is another phase of the tradition which says

\* "Correspondence of the Executive of New Jersey, 1776-1786."



that the church corner, on the side of the street opposite to that on which was situated the residence of the youthful lady who engaged his affections, was the limit of distance which his parole gave him permission to indulge in. But this aspect of the case fails to inform us just why this situation of the young lady's residence should get him acquainted with her, and, least of all, why she should fall in love with him ; and, to accept it, we must either believe that he broke his parole, or that he was met more than half way by the young lady herself, neither of which suggestions can be for a moment entertained. Perhaps her sympathy for the despondent prisoner of war, patriotic, aged twenty-one, and fine-looking, may have opened the way for the growth of a feeling of greater delicacy and power. While it is immaterial which of these traditions is accepted, it is nevertheless true that it was during his enforced residence in Flatbush that he became acquainted with the lady, Miss Abigail Lefferts, daughter of Jacob Lefferts, that he with difficulty, owing to her father's objections, succeeded in making his wife. This event occurred January 19, 1780, after he had been about two years a prisoner.

Some time after his marriage, probably immediately after his exchange, which took place April 1, 1781, he removed, with his wife and child Catharine, then seven months old, to his native place in New Jersey. While resident there, after the close of the war, he engaged in commercial pursuits, in which he was eminently successful.

His investments were in real estate in that vicinity, in which manner he added largely to that which, on his return, he found himself in possession of through the death of his

father. It was while at the height of his prosperity in New Jersey that he was earnestly desired by his father-in-law to return to Flatbush to reside. This, being contrary to his interests, he for a considerable time declined to do, but finally consented, and disposed of his property in Woodstown at a great sacrifice.

It was during these negotiations preparatory to his return to Flatbush that his father-in-law was suddenly removed by death. It was only about a month previous to this event, which occurred February, 1802, that Jacob Lefferts and Ida, his wife, had conveyed to Bateman Lloyd the family residence, with the accompanying two acres of land.\* This conveyance may have been, and probably was, in some way connected with the return of Bateman Lloyd to Flatbush, which return took place a short time afterward.

After his return to Flatbush he again followed mercantile pursuits. On the sale of the old school building, which occurred in 1805, it was purchased by Mr. Lloyd, who, with the material obtained from it, erected a store a few feet in the rear of his dwelling, which remained there until 1825, when it was removed and converted into a barn by Dr. J. B. Zabriskie.† This barn was finally removed in 1850, and a more commodious one erected on the same site, which still remains. He carried on the store that he thus erected until his death, which occurred May 5, 1814.

It was in his native place that Mr. Lloyd's military experience was most regarded, and there he was always addressed

\* See Liber 16, page 138, Kings County Register's Office.

† See Strong's "History of Flatbush," page 119.

as Colonel, although we have been unable to obtain any evidence of his having held a commission as such. It is possible that he held that rank by brevet. It is noted that, after the close of the war, while he was a resident of Woodstown, he took part in the celebration in honor of the reception of General Washington, which took place at Salem, ten miles distant.

While residing in New Jersey he was a justice of the peace, and tradition says that a frequent part of his duties was the marriage of young couples who had failed to obtain the consent of their parents. It would seem very probable that his personal experience in such affairs would lead him to regard leniently the wishes of young people who found difficulty in procuring the assent of their unyielding parents.

His friendship for the colored race was well known, likewise his disapproval of their being held as slaves, and it is not known that he ever owned one. It is exceedingly probable that he was the means of inducing his father-in-law, Jacob Lefferts, to set his slaves free at his death. Bateman Lloyd was one of the earliest of those who were energetic in advocating the abolition of negro slavery in this country, and his views on the subject were very pronounced. He was a member of the "Emancipation Society of New Jersey," the certificate of membership of which was hung in a prominent place in his house. After his death it was carefully preserved as a memento by members of his family. This certificate was ornamented by the representation of one of its members extending a helping hand to a prostrate slave, who makes this inquiry, "Am I not a man and a brother?"

In New Jersey a majority of his neighbors were Quakers, who were noted for the assistance they afforded to runaway slaves from the Southern States. He sympathized with these people in their endeavor to assist the colored people, and, when applied to, would give assistance to the fugitives, and refused to aid in having them sent back to their masters. He was an advocate of temperance, and, while it was the custom of the times and of his associates to use wines and liquors frequently, he did not indulge in the practice, and, although not demonstrative in his opposition, the social glass placed before him would almost always remain untouched.

Mr. Lloyd was modest and retiring in manner, and not disposed to take an active part in public affairs. We have no record that he did so after the close of the Revolutionary War, with the exception of his being for several years a member of the board of trustees of Erasmus Hall Academy. The traditionary evidence is unanimous as to his possession of those personal qualities which unite to form the pleasing gentleman.

In personal appearance, he is designated, by the one living person who still remembers him, as fine-looking, with a pleasing cast of features, which included a Roman nose, indicative of the force of character for which he was noted. His hair was dark and mixed with gray.

At an unexpected moment, while attending to some work which was being done in his barn, Mr. Lloyd was prostrated by a stroke of apoplexy, from which he did not fully recover, although in a few weeks he was sufficiently well to go about. During his illness he was under the care of Dr. Francis H.

Dubois (1783-1834), who then resided in New Utrecht, and whose practice extended to the adjoining towns. Mr. Lloyd died of a subsequent attack of the same malady.

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## ABIGAIL LEFFERTS LLOYD.

1759-1847.

THE subject of this sketch was born in Flatbush January 12, 1759, without doubt in the Zabriskie homestead, of which Jacob Lefferts, her father, was then the owner and occupant. Of her life previous to her marriage to Bateman Lloyd but little information has been obtained. Connected with this marriage is a large element of romance. It occurred during the Revolution, at a time when tumult and strife were the order of the day. The Dutch towns on the west end of Long Island, as has been so frequently stated, were held by the British, and selected by them as places for the retention of their captives of war. Among the prisoners billeted in Flatbush was Bateman Lloyd, a captain in the American army. An attachment was formed between Captain Lloyd and Miss Lefferts, which was not at all relished by Jacob Lefferts, the young lady's father, who refused consent to their union. The reasons, as in many instances of the kind, were due to prejudice, and not based upon reasonable facts. In the first place, the suitor was not of Dutch extraction; there was a shade of difference in his religion, he belonging to the Moravian Church, or, more properly speaking, a Quaker with Moravian tendencies; and, besides, the early history of this presuming young

officer had not been sufficiently inquired into. It is possible, also, that his politics might have been an objection; for the objector had recently taken the oath of allegiance to His Royal Highness King George III,\* while the suitor was a prisoner of war, and belonged to the opposite party—most likely, not the opposite party to that which Jacob Lefferts favored in his heart, but the opposite to that which it was necessary for him to seem to favor. If, however, Jacob Lefferts was at heart loyal to King George, his son-in-law, Peter Lefferts, was not; for he had already signed the declaration of resistance, and taken a commission as first lieutenant in the Flatbush company of militia, and his name is not found among those who took the oath of allegiance.†

We have but to record the old story. The young man Lloyd who was not afraid of King George was not likely to fear one of his subjects, and so the watchful eye of paterfamilias was avoided, and what is technically termed a runaway match was the result. Leaving home with the ostensible purpose of spending the afternoon with the family of an uncle, Mr. Jacobus Vandeventer, who had married her father's sister Abigail (October 11, 1755), and who resided but a short distance away, in a house which stood about where Vernon Avenue now joins the main street, Miss Lefferts failed to return, and the night, as well as the afternoon, was spent at her uncle's house. The next morning Mr. Vandeventer presented himself at Mr. Lefferts's residence, and was asked whether Abby was at his house. Of course, an affirmative reply was expected, but not

\* Onderdonk's "Revolutionary Incidents of Kings County," page 169.

† *Ibid.*, page 120.

the information that was coupled with it, which was to the effect that she was, and her husband also. The old gentleman was exceedingly surprised and disgusted with the reply, but yielded to the friendly advice of his brother-in-law, who suggested that he "allow them to go in peace." More than a year afterward, Captain Lloyd removed with his wife to his residence at Woodstown, Salem County, New Jersey, where he was the owner of a large amount of land. They resided in that place until the death of Jacob Lefferts, which took place in 1802. In those troublous times it was quite the fashionable thing for the young ladies of Kings County, and of other counties also, to fall in love with the gallant officers of the armies. It was equally fashionable for the parents of the young ladies to object, but the objections were very generally ineffectual. Many instances of these marriages are well known, and they seem without exception to have resulted most happily. Notable instances were those of Colonel Robert Magaw, of Pennsylvania, with Miss Maria Van Brunt, daughter of Colonel Rutgert Van Brunt, of Gravesend, and Colonel Hall, of Maryland, with Miss Gertrude Cowenhoven, of New Utrecht. Onderdonk, in his "Revolutionary Incidents of Kings County," page 203, mentions several cases.

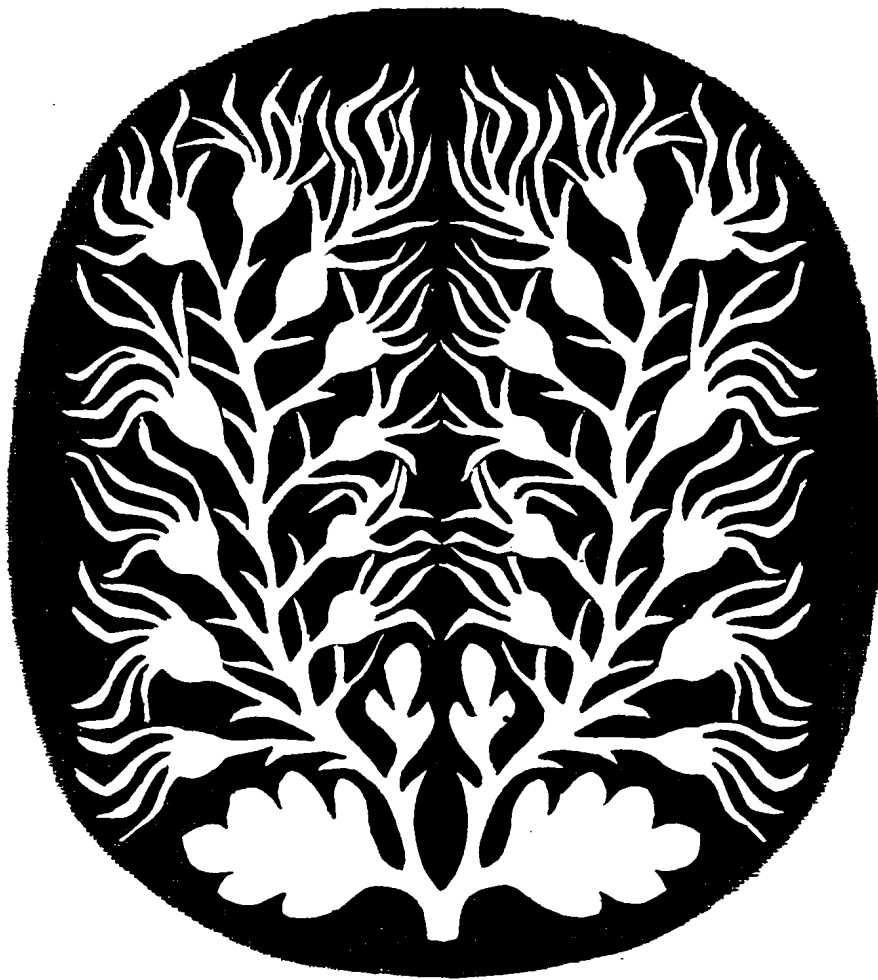
Mrs. Lloyd was a lady of great force and independence of character, and, when fully convinced of the correctness of her views, was not particularly anxious as to the opinion of her neighbors. The following incident serves to illustrate this phase of her character. On one occasion a Quaker lady preacher came to the village of Flatbush to address the inhabitants on religious subjects. On account of her sex and

religion, the use of the churches was denied her, and her mission was not countenanced by the ladies of the village. Mrs. Lloyd, however, accompanied the preacher to the court-house, which was obtained for the service, and sat by her side during the service, thus encouraging the practice of public speaking by women, which has since become so frequent and popular. These itinerant Quaker preachers were also frequent partakers of her hospitality.

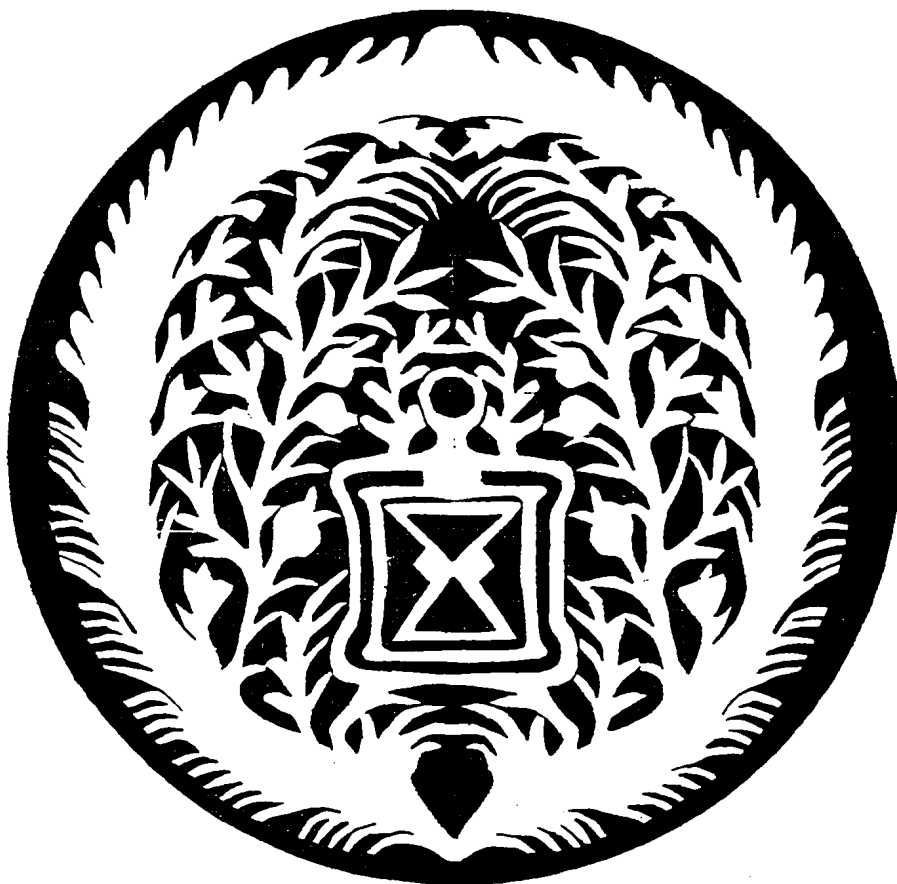
She considered it a portion of her duty, and took pleasure in entertaining at her house ministers of the Gospel, who, on account of their having charge of several congregations at one time, were compelled to go from one town to another, and remain in each a considerable time during the performance of their various duties. If at any time a minister was expected in the village when she was to be unavoidably absent, she always left such instructions to her household as would insure his being properly entertained. In those days the ministers were essentially itinerant, and it frequently occurred that they were entertained for several successive days.

In her declining years, when, by reason of the infirmities of age, she was unable to attend service in the church, she was accustomed in the summer Sabbath mornings to sit on the veranda of the old house, and listen to the preaching of the itinerant Methodist ministers who came to the village to preach in the open air, and, by her invitation, occupied a position beneath the shade of the huge old linden-tree. For a long while religious service was held by these evangelists regularly each Sabbath morning at an hour earlier than that of the service in the Dutch church near by.





FRAIL ARE THE FAIREST  
FLOWERS THAT BLOOM BELOW  
1838.



FAC-SIMILE OF PAPER CUTTINGS BY MRS. LLOYD.



The Long Island Bible Society, now an important and extensive organization, is the direct outgrowth of a society of which Mrs. Lloyd was a prominent member.\* In 1815 was formed the Female Religious Tract Society of Flatbush and Flatlands, the first annual meeting of which was held in the Flatbush church October 3, 1816. At this meeting a series of resolutions was passed, one of which changed the name of the society to the Female Bible and Religious Tract Society of Kings County, thus organizing the first Bible society in Kings County. At this meeting the officers for the ensuing year were proposed and elected. Among them appears the name of Mrs. Abigail Lloyd as second directress. The object of this society was the diffusion of religious knowledge, a work in which it was always a pleasure for Mrs. Lloyd to engage, and which she always felt it her duty to promote by every means in her power.

A chief characteristic was her love for children, the best proof of which was the great attachment of the children for her. They would, in the summer season, on their return from school, frequently cluster about the window at which she sat, and receive from her presents of ornamental cuttings of paper, ingeniously made to represent birds, flowers, etc. These cuttings were made with great precision and skill, and were mostly made after she had become advanced in years. They were generally inscribed with some favorite passage of Scripture, or poetic sentiment, in her own handwriting. Representations of some of the specimens remaining are given herewith.

\* See "Sixty-second Annual Report Long Island Bible Society," 1877.

Mrs. Lloyd was connected with the first Sabbath-school established in the town of Flatbush, and was for a number of years one of its teachers. It was established by a party of Quaker ladies and gentlemen, who came from New York for that purpose. It was intended for the benefit of the colored children, toward whom the sympathies of both Mr. and Mrs. Bateman Lloyd were ever inclined, and is not to be confounded with the first Sabbath-school connected with the Reformed Dutch Church, which it antedated, and which was established by Dr. Adrian Vanderveer about fifty years ago.

It is not to be supposed, from the designation of these as the first Sunday-schools of the town, that special religious instruction of the young had been neglected. It was a specially prescribed duty of both the Dutch minister and school-teacher to instruct the youth in the Catechism both on Sundays and week-days. The custom of assembling the children for instruction in the Catechism on week-day afternoons was continued by Rev. Dr. Strong, the late pastor, for many years, and was discontinued only on account of his failing health. The custom has, however, now very properly been superseded by the various Sabbath-schools, which offer to all who are willing to receive it such religious instruction as is proper.

It was Mrs. Lloyd's custom to assist her husband in his business by having a care as to the financial portion of it, including the keeping of the cash account. On one occasion, when counting the money that had been received, she noticed that a roll of bills, embracing a considerable portion of it, was suddenly missing. A moment previous it was before her, but

now it was nowhere to be found. As there was no other person present except a clerk, the conclusion was irresistible that he had taken the money. Mrs. Lloyd felt called upon to assert her impression as to whom the culprit was, and the clerk felt it equally his duty to indignantly repudiate the charge. While the status of affairs was in this unsatisfactory condition, it was suddenly observed that, in an obscure corner of the room, there was a third occupant, previously unnoticed. This was Bateman Lloyd's pet dog, from whose mouth protruded one end of the missing roll of bills, of which he was quietly intent on making a meal. It is unnecessary to describe the scene further; the final tableau consists of the dog in disgrace, apologies, and victory for the accused.

For several years Mrs. Lloyd was in receipt of a pension from the United States Government, received on account of her husband having been an officer in the Revolutionary army. The law which entitled her to this pension was passed in 1836. It was not, however, until 1842 that she first received it, having been unaware that she was entitled to it. The suggestion that such was the case was first made to her by Mr. Laurence L. Van Kleeck, who, with a judicious eye to business, offered to procure it for her for a consideration. Mrs. Lloyd, under the impression that he would be unable to collect the pension, made a written agreement with him, which was executed in the old house, allowing him a most liberal percentage of the amount. The pension not having been claimed since 1831 (the year that it first became due), the sum first received was very considerable, being about five thousand dollars. The pension received was that allowed the

widow of an officer with the rank of captain, which amounted to about five hundred dollars yearly. This amount was paid on her account annually until the time of her death in 1847.

In personal appearance Mrs. Lloyd was tall, rather slender, but finely formed and of dignified carriage. Her countenance was originally handsome, but was somewhat marred by the effect of small-pox contracted in youth, not sufficient, however, to render her appearance otherwise than pleasant and agreeable.

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### JOHN B. ZABRISKIE, M. D.

1805-1848.

JOHN BARREA ZABRISKIE was born at Greenbush, opposite Albany-on-the-Hudson, April 25, 1805. He was the oldest son of Rev. John Lansing Zabriskie, who was a member of the first class (1797) that graduated at Union College, and was at the time of John Barrea's birth located as pastor of the Reformed Dutch church in that town. In 1811 Rev. John L. Zabriskie removed with his family to Millstone, New Jersey, in which place he resided until his death, which occurred in 1850. Corwin, in his "Manual of the Reformed Dutch Church," thus speaks of him: "He was a man of many excellences, kind, social, unaffected, and sincerely and zealously pious, a gentleman of the old school, simple in his tastes, and unostentatious in his life. All who knew him loved him, and those who knew him best esteemed him most." The same

author, in his historical discourse, delivered at Millstone in 1866, again refers to him in eulogistic terms, and says that, when he took charge of the church, it was one of the smallest in the Raritan district, but when he died it was one of the largest and strongest.

John B. Zabriskie's mother was Sarah Barrea, daughter of John Barrea and Sarah de la Montagnie, a most estimable lady, who carefully instilled into the minds of her children those principles of virtue that bore fruit in after-years. The first school that John B. attended was taught by Mr. Richard Sluyter, who was at the same time a student of divinity with his father. On his removal with his father's family to Millstone, New Jersey, he attended the village school, where he was taught the English branches, while, at the same time, he received instruction in the classics from his father. Subsequent to this, his classical studies were continued in his father's house, under the tuition of Mr. Abraham Voorhees, who, in the capacity of private tutor, instructed a number of young men in the village. By these instructions he profited, and advanced so rapidly that, in his sixteenth year, he passed the examination and entered the Junior Class at Union College, Schenectady, at which institution he graduated July 23, 1823, while yet in his eighteenth year. During his collegiate course, one of his intimate associates, who was also a roommate and class-mate, was John A. Lott, who afterward became most eminent in the law, and upon whom have fallen many of the highest honors incident to that profession, among which is that of Judge of the Court of Appeals of the State of New York. Dr. Zabriskie bade fair to stand equally eminent

in his own profession ; but noble martyrdom to his duty has cast upon his name a glory even preferable to that which is yielded to acknowledged talent.

After leaving college, his tastes led him to choose the profession of medicine as his vocation in life, and he at once entered upon its study. He chose as his preceptor Dr. William McKeesick, a successful country practitioner near Millstone. While pursuing his studies with this physician, he attended two courses of lectures at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City, and was licensed to practice medicine by the Medical Society of the State of New Jersey November 2, 1826. About that time the custom of practicing medicine under the license of a medical society was beginning to fall into decay, and he felt it desirable to obtain the degree of Doctor of Medicine from one of the few institutions in this country that were at that time authorized to grant it. With this purpose in view, he attended another course of medical lectures at the University of Pennsylvania, and received his degree from that institution April 6, 1827. He then entered upon the practice of his profession. While so engaged he resided in three different places: first, in New York City; second, for a short time, in New Lots, Long Island, which was then a portion of the town of Flatbush; and, finally, in the village of Flatbush.

His office in New York was in Greenwich Street, then a street of private residences, while at the same time he resided in East Broadway, boarding with the family of Mr. James Forrester. Here he remained for about six months, when—for some reason not stated, but probably from the same



which so frequently causes young practitioners to remove, viz., a paucity of patients—he concluded to try his fortune in the country, and removed to New Lots, where he took up his residence with the family of Mr. Isaac C. Schenck. The actuating motive that caused him to select the town of New Lots was the removal of Dr. Rapalje to Brooklyn, which left vacant a field that seemed a desirable one for the practice of his profession. Success attended him from the first; the second year found him with but little leisure to attend the cognate scientific pursuits that gave him so much pleasure. Before the completion of the second year of his residence in New Lots, he was married to Miss Abby L. Lott, of Flatbush, to which place he then removed.

Before Brooklyn furnished the great advantages of evening entertainment and instruction that it has in later years, there were in several of the county towns associations whose object was the instruction and amusement of the people. Flatbush had its “Literary Association,” which, in the winter of 1842-’43, furnished the people with a course of lectures. In this course, which was also the one in which Rev. T. M. Strong, D. D., delivered the lectures which were afterward published as the “History of Flatbush,” Dr. Zabriskie delivered one, the subject of which was “Egyptian Antiquities.” The lecture was beautifully illustrated by figures drawn by Miss Elizabeth Martense, an accomplished young lady of the village. The lecture was applauded for its learning and research, and he was invited to repeat it in Newtown before a similar association, of which Dr. Stryker was president. In a subsequent course, he delivered a popular discourse on “The

Eye," which lecture was also fully illustrated by drawings, and elicited the favorable comments of the public.

He would frequently give at his house, for the instruction of the young people of the village, a literary *soirée*, at which he would popularize some scientific subject, and entertain as well as instruct his company. One pleasure he derived from the pursuit of science was the imparting of knowledge and the consciousness of benefiting others.

His relation to the Medical Society of the County of Kings was of importance, and he was held in high esteem by its members. The society had been in existence but seven years when, in October, 1829, he was elected to membership, so that, during the first years of his connection with it, he was associated both in the society and in practice with the nine members who were its founders in 1822, all of whose names are familiar to the older inhabitants of Flatbush. They are Drs. Charles Ball, Matthew Wendall, John Carpenter, William D. Creed, Francis H. Dubois, Adrian Vanderveer, Cornelius Low, Joseph G. T. Hunt, and Thomas W. Henry. Dr. Zabriskie was frequently chosen to fill various offices in the society, having been secretary and censor in 1832, on two occasions delegate to the State Medical Society, in 1830 and 1831, and, finally, its eighth president in 1839.

There appears in the "Transactions of the New York State Medical Society for the Year 1832" a report from a committee of the King's County Medical Society, of which Dr. John B. Zabriskie was chairman, on the "Medical Topography of King's County." This report, of which he was the author, is the first and only one printed in the "Transactions for 1832,"

which was made in response to a circular issued by the State society during the previous year. It is exceedingly comprehensive and well written. It contains a description of the topography of the county, and affords him an opportunity to describe its geological formation, which he does in a manner that exhibits his intimate knowledge of a subject for which he had great taste, and which he pursued to a considerable extent in his leisure hours. It contains an elaborate account of bilious remittent fever, which had existed as a severe epidemic in 1828. It concludes with a meteorological table for 1830, compiled from the observations made at Erasmus Hall in Flatbush. Some of its sentences exhibit the wonderful progress made by the county in forty-two years. The following striking instances are quoted:

*“Inhabitants.”*—The number of inhabitants in this county amounts to twenty thousand; of these, fifteen thousand reside in the town and village of Brooklyn. The houses are generally framed buildings; there are also many of brick, and some of stone. . . . Wood is the most common fuel, and of this there is a good supply. Coal has been much used of late in Brooklyn and its vicinity.

*“Morals and Education.”*—There are fifteen churches in this county; the inhabitants are generally moral and well educated. The facilities afforded by means of common schools have diffused the more common branches of education pretty generally throughout all classes.”

In the “American Journal of Medical Sciences,” volume XII, 1846, will be found an article entitled “Cases illustrating the Use of *Sanicula Marilandica* in Chorea,” by J. B. Zabriskie, M. D., Physician to the Kings County Almshouse. After

giving a description of the plant, in which all the botanical points are minutely shown, he goes on to give the result of his experience as regards its medicinal virtues. He reports four cases, which demonstrate with precision the effects of the drug on the system, and particularly its decided effect in arresting that peculiarly distressing disease, chorea, or, as it is popularly called, St. Vitus's dance. The paper is dated Flatbush, July 25, 1846. Dr. Zabriskie's experience with this drug has been referred to in each subsequent edition of the "United States Dispensatory." He was the first to discover and make known to the medical profession the beneficial effects of this drug in the above-mentioned disease.

He was for some considerable time, probably for three or four years, surgeon to the Two Hundred and Forty-first Regiment of the New York State Militia, of which regiment Hon. Teunis G. Bergen was colonel, and by whom he was appointed to the position on his staff. His colonel speaks of him as a most even-tempered man, amiable in disposition, and asserts that he was universally respected in his regiment.

In 1847, the year previous to his death, he was Superintendent of Schools in the town of Flatbush, which then, and until 1852, included what is now the town of New Lots. One of his official acts was the organization of a new school district. This was known as School District No. 3 of the town of Flatbush, and embraced the territory of Cypress Hills and East New York.\*

During the season of cholera in Flatbush and the adjoin-

\* "History of Public Schools" (Pamphlet), East New York, 1876.

ing towns in 1832, Dr. John B. Zabriskie was most actively engaged in combating it. A board of health was established in Flatbush July 24th, but the epidemic had begun some weeks previously. This board consisted of the Supervisor, John Wyckoff, the Overseers of the Poor, John R. Snedeker, and Henry S. Ditmas, and the Justices of the Peace, David Johnson and John A. Lott.\* Dr. Adrian Vanderveer occupied the position of health officer; with him were associated, in the care of those who were provided for by the Board of Health, Dr. John B. Zabriskie, Dr. Robert Edmond, of Cypress Hills, and Dr. William D. Creed. At no time in the history of the village of Flatbush has it been visited by an epidemic of such general prevalence. The people were greatly alarmed; but, going quietly among the poor as well as the rich, assiduously attentive to their every want, was Dr. Zabriskie, adding very greatly by his calm and impressive demeanor to the dispersion of their fears.

The brightest glory that surrounds the memory of this humane physician, alas! too early a martyr to his profession, is the affection and respect shown by those, especially the poorer people, among whom he labored. With all, his reputation for kindness of heart and generosity was very great, but among the poor and afflicted, where his opportunities were greatest, was he held in the highest esteem. It is needless to specify special acts of kindness, for there are many living to-day who well remember them.

There has been more than one student of medicine in this

\* Flatbush Town Records.

town (Flatbush), during whose preparatory study a frequent advice has been to keep before them the example of Dr. Zabriskie as a model worthy their emulation, and this referred not to science alone, but also impressed the idea that his conduct was worthy of imitation in the many opportunities which every practicing physician has of benefiting those in affliction with whom he comes in contact.

It is safe to say that there was no man in the town of Flatbush that was more generally respected and beloved than Dr. Zabriskie, and when, in the prime of his manhood, it was announced that he was dead, the event was regarded by the community as a public calamity. The extensive range through the county towns, into all of which his practice extended, was permeated by a feeling not only of sympathy with the family, which was most sincere, but with a great appreciation and regret for what they considered their personal loss. Dr. Zabriskie had the faculty of inspiring not only respect but affection in those with whom he came in contact. This feeling of sorrow affected not only those with whom he was acquainted, and with whom he came in personal relation, but communicated itself to the general public; even strangers, patients of other physicians, were greatly moved by the sudden sorrow that had fallen upon his family. A touching incident was the publication, in the "New York Evangelist," by a lady temporarily residing in the village, of a most beautifully written sympathetic appeal to the one on whom the blow fell with the greatest severity, a copy of which was sent to Mrs. Zabriskie, "with the sympathy of a stranger." The descriptive portion of the article is quoted:

“It has fallen to my lot to be ‘a stranger and a sojourner’ in a pleasant village. I am familiar with its streets and its lanes, its houses and its gardens, its church and its church-yard, studded with memorial stones. . . . Something attracts the fancy and draws the sympathies to one, rather than another, of the many homes. We establish a sort of intimacy with the premises, and could almost feel a right to walk in and make ourselves at home, on the ground of having taken a fancy to the place and adopted it as a favorite. Such a relation began some months ago to exist between my own mind and an old mansion on the corner, whose roof comes sloping down to form a broad, sunny porch, not upon the main street, for to that it offers its blind side, but upon the more quiet intersecting street where it can contemplate at its leisure the profile of the respectable church on the opposite corner, standing among the graves of many generations. Two gigantic bunches of box stand as sentinels at its gate. I marked their quaint aspect when they were half buried in snow, and mused upon the many years of undisturbed growth they must have known. When the snow disappeared, I remarked that they had their companion and compeer in a solid bed of myrtle, covering the yard with an evergreen carpet. Half a century could hardly have sufficed to give it such a foothold. The patriarch tree in front of the house verifies the legend attached to it, that Washington held a meeting of his officers beneath it while sharing the hospitalities of the mansion it shades. The charm of the spot to me is its venerable and time-hallowed aspect, and the testimony it seemed to bear to peaceful permanency and to family stability as a practical problem here on earth.

“But the old house on the corner has since taught me another lesson. Under the shelter of its peaceful roof, in the midst of his family, in the prime of his days, the proprietor was suddenly stricken dead, and I saw a vast concourse of mourners gathered within and around the dwelling to carry him forth. Amid the tears and lamentations of a community, to

whom he was an endeared physician, he was borne between the green sentinels at his gate across the dividing street to the church-yard, and laid down to his last repose, as it were, beneath the windows of his home. Thenceforth, as I passed, my thoughts were divided between the freshly raised mound on the one hand and the house of bereavement on the other.

“The winter snows have now melted away, green grass is springing to border the pathway, buds are swelling on every bough, red blossoms are on the maple, and tender green leaves fringe the flexible rods of the willow; the wheat-fields are brilliant in their vivid green, and the animated face of man and the songs of rejoicing birds welcome the spring. As I pass the old corner mansion, I see that there, too, is spring. That bed of ancient myrtle is gay with blossoms, and intermingled with it are daffodils and early violets, while the garden through its whole length shows the varied hues of hyacinth, the gorgeous crown-imperial, and the broad leaves of budding tulips, just ready to add themselves to the imposing array. Even the old tree feels the genial influence. The sap moves in its gnarled branches, and finds its way to the ends of its twisted and time-tattered boughs, to swell the buds there. Nowhere about the village is it more truly spring than about the old corner mansion—and yet it all looks sad. I seem to hear ever from within a plaintive voice that asks:

“But when shall spring visit the moldering urn?

Oh, when shall morn break on the night of the grave?”

Dr. Zabriskie was for several years in charge of the sick at the county farm, previous to the erection of the present hospital building. Here he had associated with him as students of medicine Drs. T. M. Ingraham and Christopher Prince, both at present well-known and highly respected practitioners of medicine, and Drs. Elmendorf and Wade, since deceased. He was in charge at the time of his decease, and it was in his



devotion to the poor that he contracted the malignant fever which brought to an untimely close his most useful and honorable career. Pleasing and affable in demeanor, he was loved by all. Exact in his assertions and skilled in his profession, he was regarded by his patients with the highest respect. He was a pious and conscientious Christian, and was for many years a consistent member of the Reformed Dutch church, in which he held various offices, having been twice elected elder.

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## MRS. ABBY L. ZABRISKIE.

1811- —.

MRS. ZABRISKIE, the second daughter of Mr. Jeremiah Lott, was born April 12, 1811, at the homestead of the Lott family in Flatbush. Her early education was acquired at Erasmus Hall Academy, which school she attended until she was eleven years of age. She was then sent to the Moravian Seminary for young ladies, under the charge of Brother Charles F. Seidel, at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. This institution was conducted under the auspices of the Moravian Church, and was very justly celebrated for the thorough manner in which its teachers educated the young ladies committed to its charge. At this institution she remained for three years, and there acquired many of those accomplishments which so well became her in after-life. This school, as well as the people who had charge of it, had peculiarities in management as well as peculiarities in religious customs. When a pupil once became a resident of the school, it was

against the rule for her to visit her home previous to the completion of her course of study, and Miss Lott did not return to her home until she had completed a term of three years. A religious peculiarity that impressed her was their custom of causing music to be heard from the church-tower on the occasion of the death of any member of the Moravian community which resided in the vicinity. From the character of the music performed, it could be known whether the deceased person was young or in middle or advanced life.\*

Not long after her return from Bethlehem, she was introduced to the young medical practitioner who afterward became her husband. Her marriage to Dr. Zabriskie took place October 13, 1830, and formed a union blessed and charming in every respect. This union, unexpectedly sundered by the death of her husband in 1848, thrust upon her the responsibility of the care and education of a family of children, to which she devoted herself, entirely forgetful of self in her desire for its welfare.

In the year 1874 she compiled and published a book of selections, mostly poetical, dedicating it to her children, for whose use it was intended. It is composed of selections, newspaper clippings, and other choice pieces that she had met with from time to time. The character of the selections shows plainly the religious taste and character of the mind

\* The founder of the sect of Moravians was Count Nicholas Louis Zinzendorf, who was born in Dresden in 1700. He began preaching in 1721, having studied at Halle and Utrecht. He traveled over the greater part of the world, and came to America in 1741, returned to Europe in 1743, and died in 1760. See "Allen's Biographical Dictionary," quoted by O'Callaghan, "Documentary History," 8vo ed., vol. iii, p. 1021.

that selected them. They appeal to the heart, to the sympathy and feeling, and plainly convey to the reader an idea of the firm trust in the religion of Christ of her whose attention they had arrested and whose taste they had gratified.

Mrs. Zabriskie has long been an earnest and devoted Christian, is benevolent, and has done much to advance the interests of the Christian Church. She has, for many years, taken great interest in foreign missions, and contributed liberally to their support. On one occasion an audience, in which she was, being appealed to for a certain specified large amount of money for the establishment of a girls' home and school in Japan, she responded and subscribed the money required. Of her many acts of charity, we will narrate but one other; and these would, in all probability, not be given were she aware that their publication was contemplated, so great is her distaste for ostentatious display of charity. In the year 1875 she received from a lady, the wife of a clergyman and an entire stranger to her, an appeal in behalf of the lady's son, a young man who, having completed his college course, lacked funds to support him while engaged in study at the theological seminary. Mrs. Zabriskie caused the case to be investigated, and, finding the young man worthy of assistance, assumed the burden of his support for the three years of his seminary course.

In the year 1866 she erected, on the northerly half of the homestead lot, the fine residence she now occupies, at which time she relinquished the old homestead to her son, Dr. John L. Zabriskie, who, with his family, resided in it until its destruction.

## SARAH HICKS (COLORED).

1785- ———.

THERE is still living at present, under treatment in the hospital, an old colored lady by the name of Sarah Hicks, who gives a history of considerable interest. A portion of it is so intimately connected with the subject under consideration that it is given here.

She says that she, as well as several of her brothers and sisters, was born in the old Zabriskie homestead many years ago. She has no exact knowledge of the dates. Although she has arrived at a very great age, her intellect is not materially impaired, and her memory is most perfect, and especially is this so, as is generally the case, with reference to her early life.

She was, of course, born as a slave, owned by Jacob Lefferts, and her service, when she became old enough to work, was, in accordance with the custom of the times, given to his daughter Abigail, who had, some years previously, been married to Bateman Lloyd, of New Jersey, to which place she went with them to reside. Very shortly after the death of Jacob Lefferts, which occurred in 1802, and which event she says she distinctly remembers, and especially the arrival of the letters which announced to the friends in New Jersey the unexpected news, she returned with the family to reside in Flatbush. She remembers also hearing various members of the family say that at the time of Jacob Lefferts's funeral there had been a very heavy fall of snow, sufficient to render the

roads impassable, and that the funeral was not largely attended on that account, and that many of the relatives residing in adjoining towns were prevented from attending. She is cognizant of the family tradition that his death was caused by the bite of a rat.

Her mother was owned by and served as cook in the family of Jacob Lefferts until his death. Her father was purchased by Mr. Lefferts from one of the Clarksons, who also owned her grandfather, Jeffrey Jacobs. She has been twice married and has had several children, but all have gone before, leaving her patiently awaiting the call to join them. Her first husband, who was born a slave in the Ditmas family, was named Hector Johnson; after his death she was married to Cornelius Hicks, who was born with the Stockholms at Bushwick.

She, at two separate times, resided in the Zabriskie homestead: first, from her birth until her removal to New Jersey, and second, from her return to Flatbush until she obtained her freedom.

She recalls with distinctness the pewter plates, with their bright polish, which were used in the family before the use of China became general; also, the ornamental manner in which the white beach sand was spread upon the uncarpeted floor.

One of her earliest remembrances is that of dropping corn on the church land, opposite the farm of Peter I. Neefus, on East Broadway, which land was rented and cultivated by her master, Jacob Lefferts. When she became large enough to carry her mistress's foot-stove to church and place it in the family pew, which she is sure was the first behind that set

apart for the minister's family, which she correctly locates, she flattered herself that she had become of considerable importance. In these times, it will be remembered, there were no carpets on the church floor, and no stoves or other mode of heating the church, so that, when people came from New Lots to attend church service, as they were accustomed to do, they would, in the winter season, visit the neighboring houses for the purpose of getting warmed previous to the trying ordeal of two and a half hours in the cold church. Many of these worshipers enjoyed the hospitality of her master, Jacob Leferts, and replenished their foot-stoves at his hospitable fire. To her these early customs are subjects of affection and respect, and she condemns with great severity the luxurious arrangement of churches of the present day, believing them to be "more like playhouses than churches."

She remembers distinctly that she was accustomed to go to the Erasmus Hall Academy "to play" during the time that Dr. Wilson was head teacher there, which from other sources is found to have been between the years 1792 and 1797. She also remembers Dr. Wilson's successor, Mr. Oblenis, who resigned in 1806. Both of these she calls by name without prompting from extraneous sources. She remembers much about the erection of the present Reformed Dutch church of Flatbush, which was begun in 1793 and completed December, 1796. She remembers and states the name of the master mason, John Sanford, and the names of many others engaged in building the church. She insists that the idea of two stairways, one for the white and one for the colored people, originated with one of the Lotts, who, having marriageable

daughters, did not consider it in accordance with his ideas of propriety and dignity to have them ascend and descend the same stairway with the colored people, "and so," says the old lady, "that is the way the darkies got the little stairway under the bell."

She remembers that during her youth the Indians "used to come round with baskets to sell"; that after the death of her twin sister she put cake and flowers in one of these baskets and took them to her sister's grave, which was in the burial-ground for colored people, which was situated in East Broadway, near the present public-school house. This burial-ground was abolished and the land sold for building purposes in the year 1861.

She had a twin sister named Phyllis, referred to above, who died young, a brother Henry, who went to live with that daughter of Jacob Lefferts who married Rem Van Pelt, one brother named Jeffrey, and others about whom she does not remember. They were all born in the old Zabriskie house, the subject of this memoir. She says that she was made free, but does not exactly know how. She is sure that she was not manumitted, and that she became free before the act of the Legislature would have made her so, or, as she expresses it, "before the free act came out." This matter is, however, fully explained by reference to the last will of Jacob Lefferts, recorded in the Surrogate's Office, Kings County, Liber 1, page 332. In a codicil, dated October 6, 1800, made two years before his death, he declares that, in the event of his death, he gives freedom to all his slaves, with the exception of the girl Sarah, who shall not become free until the expiration of thir-

teen years from the date of the instrument. She says that she was twenty-eight years of age when she became free; that it occurred in Flatbush in the month of October; that she can not tell the year. She must, then, have been fifteen years old in 1800, was consequently born in 1785, and is, therefore, now (1881) ninety-six years old.

After she became free in 1815, her history does not bear any important relation to this memoir. Leaving Flatbush, which she did shortly after obtaining her freedom, she went to reside with her aunt in Harmen Street, in New York City, and worked for various families by the day. She afterward lived as a domestic in several families, whose names she mentions. The family that she lived with for the greatest length of time was that of Mr. Jacob Clinch, who resided in Reade Street, and afterward in other parts of the city, and who, during the whole time that she was with him, was the proprietor of a hardware store in Wall Street near the river. She disowns the idea that she ever left a place on account of any fault of her own, and says that she only did so when a more advantageous position was offered. The reputation that she gives herself, and which we have no reason to doubt, was that she was a good laundress, a good cook, and a good worker generally, and that where she "went once she could go again." She gives interesting descriptions of New York City and Brooklyn in early times, and has frequently crossed what is now Fulton Ferry in a sail-boat.

This old lady's recollections are of interest, not only because she was born in the old house, but on account of their referring to those who lived there, and principally from her



being the only living person that we are aware of who can possibly have any personal recollection of Jacob Lefferts, who died in 1802. It seems almost incredible that there can be a person living to-day who can describe accurately from memory the personal appearance, disposition, and habits of a person who died ten years previous to the War of 1812. She is also one of the very few who have a personal recollection of Bateman Lloyd, who died in 1814. Both of these gentlemen are important characters in this memoir, and in the account of each her story forms an important element in the estimate of their personal acts and characteristics.

After she was married she went to housekeeping, and lived in various places in the vicinity of New York, and was supported by her husband, with such assistance as she rendered by going out occasionally to service by the day. As she grew old her family and relatives died one after another, until finally she is left alone, dependent upon others for support. There are, however, those who have a regard for her, and will not permit her to lack anything that is necessary for her comfort. There is no doubt that she has led an honest, temperate, and Christian life, and frequent conversations with her reveal the fact that she bears her infirmities in the true spirit of unostentatious piety. It is to be hoped that God will grant to her remaining time upon earth that peace, comfort, and spiritual consolation which she seems to deserve.



## GENEALOGIES.

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### DESCENDANTS OF JACOB LEFFERTS.

1. JACOB LEFFERTS, born May 9, 1717; died February 21, 1802. Married first, May 30, 1741, Catharine Vanderveer, born March 30, 1722; died November 2, 1773. Married second (supposed date), January, 1777, Ida Vanderveer, born November 27, 1723; died February 24, 1807.

*Issue first.\**—Ida, born February 3, 1743; died March 4, 1744. Ida (No. 2), born January 26, 1745. Gerret, born January 19, 1748; died October 30, 1752. Pieter, born July 19, 1750; died April 3, 1759. Jannetje (No. 3), born May 3, 1753. Gerret, born February 2, 1756; died December 22, 1758. Abigail (No. 4), born January 12, 1759. Adriantje, born March 3, 1761; died May 2, 1773. Pieter, born October

\* The number of births that have been ascertained to have taken place in the Zabriskie homestead is thirty-three. All the children of Jacob and Catharine Lefferts, ten in number, three of Bateman and Abigail Lloyd, three of Judge John A. and Lydia Lott, one of John T. Rhodes, five of Dr. John B. and Abby L. Zabriskie, three of Dr. John L. and Eliza B. Zabriskie; while, in addition, we have accounts of six colored slaves, four by the name of Jacobs, and two Johnsons. Among the Jacobses is she of whom we give a biographical sketch, under her married name of Sarah Hicks.

11, 1762; died October 20, 1767. A daughter, born August 18, 1763; died August 26, 1763.

*Issue second.*—None.

2. IDA LEFFERTS, born January 26, 1745; died July 2, 1828. Married, November 24, 1767, Rem Van Pelt, of New Utrecht, born April 17, 1738; died March 18, 1829.

*Issue.*—Gertrude, born April 30, 1770; died September 8, 1796; married, November 6, 1788, Hendrick Suydam, of Bedford, born March 13, 1767. Jacob,\* born March 10, 1774; died October 16, 1827; married, August 19, 1802, Marytje, born October 10, 1781; died October 3, 1852; daughter of Johannes Lott, of Flatbush.

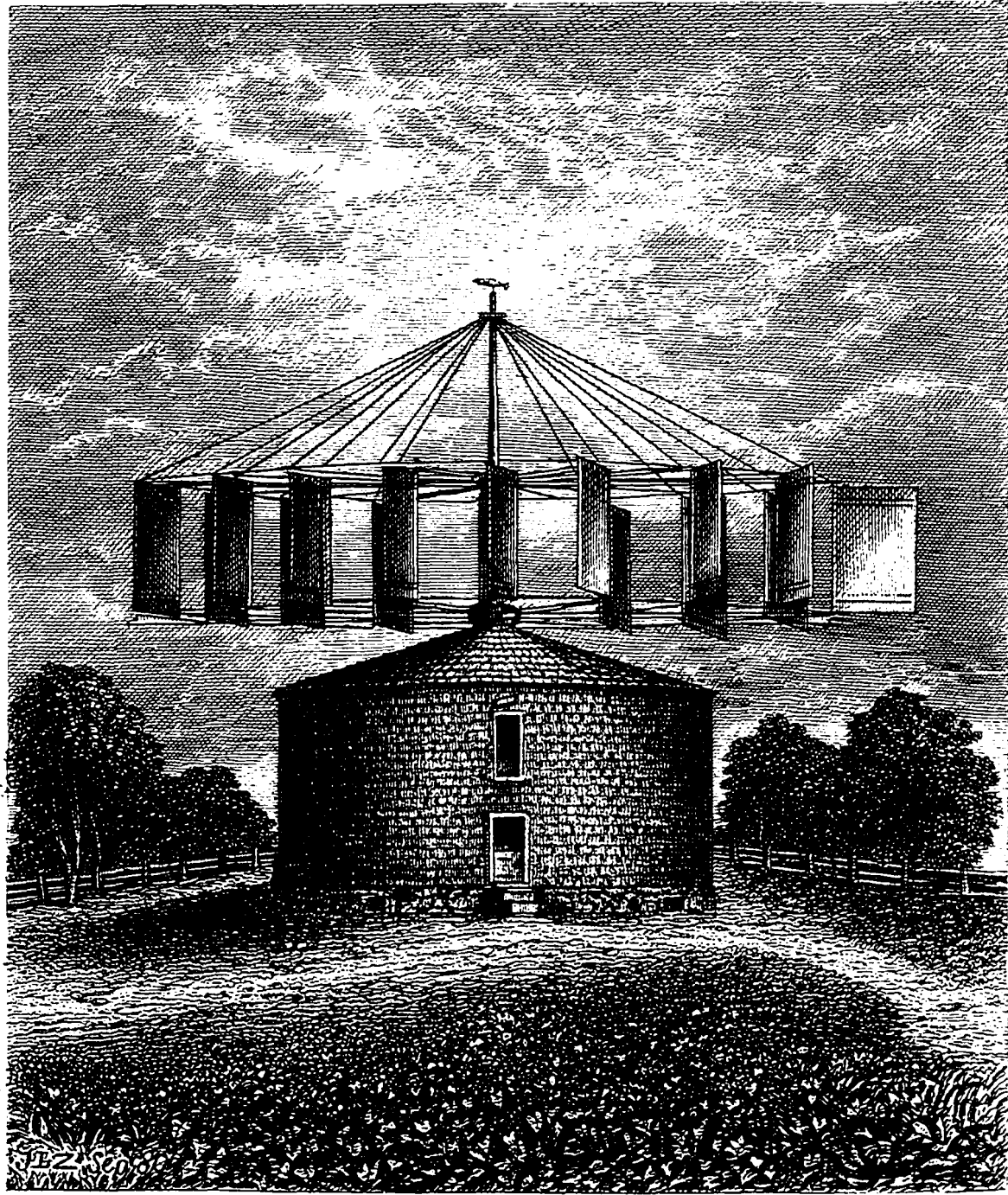
3. JANNETJE (JANE) LEFFERTS, born May 3, 1753; died February 21, 1783. Married, May 13, 1775, Peter Lefferts, of Flatbush, born December 27, 1753; died October 7, 1791.

*Issue.*—Catharine (No. 5), born May 16, 1776. Jan, born May 28, 1778; died February 14, 1779. Sarah, born January 11, 1782; died July 16, 1783.

4. ABIGAIL LEFFERTS, born January 12, 1759; died August 31, 1847. Married, January 19, 1780, Bateman Lloyd, born August 28, 1756; died May 5, 1814.

\* Jacob Van Pelt had issue: John L., of New Utrecht, born August 1, 1806, married December 17, 1834, Anna Maria, daughter of Timothy Cortelyou; and Gertrude, born September 22, 1804, died November 5, 1857, single.

John L. Van Pelt has issue: Jacob Lefferts, born May 9, 1836; Townsend Cortelyou, born November 13, 1837, married Maria Elizabeth, daughter of John Ditmars; Mary Lott, born September 2, 1839, married, December 3, 1863, Jeremiah Van Brunt; Anna Cortelyou, born April 23, 1841; Delia, born April 17, 1843, died November 3, 1875, married George Shields; John Vanderbilt, born March 7, 1847, married Josephine Miller.



Lloyd's Mill Flatbush.



*Issue.*—Catharine (No. 6), born October 16, 1780. Harriet Lydia, born November 14, 1782; died September 5, 1783. Lefferts, born December 29, 1783; died February 4, 1784. Lydia (No. 7), born November 20, 1785. Lefferts Ware (No. 8), born February 14, 1788. Abigail, born February 15, 1792; died February 12, 1822. James, born April 8, 1796; died January 18, 1797.

5. CATHARINE LEFFERTS, born May 16, 1776; died January 24, 1809. Married, July 3, 1794, Johannes Cortelyou, born February 2, 1772; died June 27, 1855.

*Issue.*—Peter, born February 15, 1796; died November 14, 1801. Isaac, born October 8, 1797; died November 10, 1845; married, November 2, 1819, Sarah T., daughter of Timothy T. Cortelyou, born October 7, 1802; died September 9, 1876. Jacob, born October 16, 1799; died December 26, 1800. Aletta, born August 5, 1801; died August 16, 1822, single. Jane, a twin with Aletta, died November 2, 1806.

6. CATHARINE LLOYD, born October 16, 1780; died March 10, 1856. Married, September 24, 1801, Judge George A. Duryee, of New Utrecht, born August 1, 1769; died March 13, 1824.

*Issue.*—Ellen Nagle, born July 21, 1802; died April 20, 1868, single.

7. LYDIA LLOYD, born November 20, 1785; died April 17, 1865. Married, January 17, 1805, Jeremiah Lott, born October 14, 1776; died August 16, 1861.

*Issue.*—Catharine L. (No. 9), born October 17, 1807. Abby Lefferts (No. 10), born April 12, 1811.

8. LEFFERTS WARE LLOYD, born February 4, 1788; died

January 19, 1841. Married, December 29, 1810, Sarah Franklin, born June 29, 1796 ; died August 25, 1832.

*Issue.*—Jane Lefferts (No. 11), born June 10, 1811. Bateman (No. 12), born August 25, 1812. Mary Franklin, born July 7, 1814 ; died January 10, 1816. John Franklin (No. 13), born October 19, 1816. Walter Franklin (No. 14), born August 15, 1818. Catharine, born July 22, 1820 ; died October, 1854 ; married Dr. Flavius Byrd. Mary Elizabeth, born May 25, 1830 ; died April 25, 1831.

9. CATHARINE L. LOTT, born October 17, 1807. Married, February 16, 1829, Judge John A. Lott, born February 11, 1806 ; died July 20, 1878.

*Issue.*—Jeremiah, born December 24, 1829 ; died March 12, 1837. Abraham (No. 15), born August 28, 1831. Anna Maria, born January 30, 1834 ; died November 14, 1837. Abby Lloyd, born October 3, 1836 ; married first, June 4, 1862, John Erskine Howard, died April 21, 1869 ; married second, September 1, 1875, Rev. Cornelius L. Wells, D. D., born September 16, 1833. John Zabriskie (No. 16), born July 11, 1838. Maria Jane (No. 17), born September 4, 1840. Henry, born December 18, 1841 ; died September 3, 1842. Jeremiah (No. 18), born March 24, 1844. Lydia Lloyd, born April 13, 1847 ; died June 26, 1848.

10. ABBY LEFFERTS LOTT, born April 12, 1811. Married, October 13, 1830, Dr. John Barrea Zabriskie, born April 25, 1805 ; died February 8, 1848.

*Issue.*—John Lloyd (No. 19), born August 26, 1831. Jeremiah Lott (No. 20), born February 3, 1835. Nicholas Lansing (No. 21), born February 18, 1838. Harriet Lydia (No.



22), born July 29, 1841. Sarah Barrea (No. 23), born January 17, 1845.

11. JANE LEFFERTS LLOYD, of Florida, born June 10, 1811. Married, March 25, 1835, Henry Bond, of Belfast, Ireland, born (?); died (?).

*Issue.*—Thomas, born December 1, 1836; died (?). Henry, born August 11, 1838. Oliver, born September 14, 1839; died (?). Walter L., born December 7, 1840. Sarah L., born September 19, 1842; died (?).

12. BATEMAN LLOYD, born August 25, 1812. Married, October 1, 1830, Henrietta Seaward, born February 9, 1814.

*Issue.*—Cornell S., born July 4, 1831; died March 24, 1832. Charles Roswell, born March 16, 1833; died June 21, 1840. Sarah Franklin, born April 18, 1835; died May 11, 1853. Henrietta Seaward, born March 16, 1837; died August 22, 1850. Elenora S., born March 4, 1839; died June 11, 1840. Mary L., born August 9, 1846; married, May 19, 1865, Joseph Kleinfelder. Anna Maria, born March 28, 1849; died December 24, 1866. Catharine C., born February 2, 1852; married Benjamin F. Bowman. Lydia Jane Ware, born September 10, 1854.

13. JOHN FRANKLIN LLOYD, born October 19, 1816. Married, 1835, Adeline Seaman, born September 6, 1816.

*Issue.*—Sarah M., born July 28, 1837; died February 11, 1871; married, October 12, 1862, Robert W. Cowen, born November 15, 1866. Lefferts Ware, born July 6, 1840; married, October 26, 1862, Eleanora S. Chamberlin, born January 28, 1847. John Franklin, born April 10, 1847; married, November 2, 1868, Anna L. Jackson.

14. WALTER FRANKLIN LLOYD, of Florida, born August 15, 1818. Married, April 8, 1847, Sarah D. Leonard.

*Issue.*—Thomas Leonard, born February 18, 1848; died March 4, 1851. Lefferts Ware, born March 4, 1851; died November 10, 1852. Annie L., born March 30, 1854. Thomas Henry, born November 23, 1858. Sarah Franklin, born June 7, 1860.

15. ABRAHAM LOTT, born August 28, 1831. Married, September 26, 1855, Gertrude Bergen, born October 1, 1829.

*Issue.*—John Abraham, born June 30, 1856. Maria Bergen, born August 26, 1858. James Lloyd, born September 25, 1862; died August 29, 1867. Katharine Lydia, born July 3, 1868.

16. JOHN ZABRISKIE LOTT, born July 11, 1838. Married, October 7, 1863, Maria Ditmas, born November 3, 1837.

*Issue.*—Henry Ditmas, born September 18, 1865. Erskine Howard, born May 7, 1869.

17. MARIA JANE LOTT, born September 4, 1840. Married, October 8, 1868, John H. Livingston, born February 6, 1825.

*Issue.*—Charles Lauriston, born September 3, 1869. John A. Lott, born June 26, 1871; died August 10, 1871. Katharine Lloyd, born November 13, 1872. Laura Hyde, born March 9, 1875; died August 13, 1875. Royal Lott, born October 5, 1876; died November 17, 1876. Sidney Gates, born June 24, 1879; died October 14, 1879.

18. JEREMIAH LOTT, born March 24, 1844. Married, January 29, 1868, Ida L. Garvin, born April 11, 1846; died February 13, 1872.

*Issue.*—Eliza Zabriskie, born February 16, 1869. Lydia Lloyd, born February 3, 1872.

19. JOHN LLOYD ZABRISKIE, born August 26, 1831. Married, June 6, 1861, Eliza B. Garvin, born March 17, 1836.

*Issue.*—Louise Garvin, born May 30, 1864. John Barrea, born June 18, 1870. Ida Garvin, born June 22, 1873; died July 19, 1873. Edwin Garvin, born October 7, 1874.

20. Rev. JEREMIAH LOTT ZABRISKIE, born February 3, 1835. Married, May 16, 1866, Sarah Lyles, born June 23, 1843.

*Issue.*—Kate Lyles, born April 11, 1868. Laura Lott, born December 11, 1871. Henry Lyles, born January 26, 1877.

21. NICHOLAS LANSING ZABRISKIE, born February 18, 1838. Married, June 28, 1865, Louise F. Morgan, born November 20, 1836.

*Issue.*—Alonzo Morgan, born September 28, 1867. Lloyd Lansing, born October 27, 1869; died March 10, 1872. Robert, born October 23, 1872.

22. HARRIET LYDIA ZABRISKIE, born July 29, 1841. Married, Jan. 2, 1862, Rev. Robert G. Strong, born March 8, 1837.

*Issue.*—Harriet Zabriskie, born November 7, 1862. Sarah Barrea and Elizabeth C., twins, born December 12, 1865; Elizabeth C. died December 12, 1865. Lydia Lloyd, born September 16, 1867. Thomas Morris, born December 9, 1873. Abby Zabriskie, born July 31, 1876; died May 13, 1877.

23. SARAH BARREA ZABRISKIE, born January 17, 1845. Married, June 1, 1871, Christopher Prince, born November 17, 1839.

*Issue.*—John Lloyd, born July 1, 1872. Duffield, born April 7, 1876. Henry Starr, born October 10, 1879.



# APPENDIX.

## COPY OF OLD DEED.

### *Province of East New Jersey :*

To all Christian poeple to whome these presents shall come, &c., wee, Coorang, Maemsey, Rawatones, Anasan, & Matachera, Indian natives & owners of the land heerafter mentioned, send greeting, Know yee that for & in consideration of fflower hundred gilders in seewant & silver money, Twenty pounds of powder, nine yards & half of duffells, one anker of rum, & twelve pounds of toobacco to us in hand payd by Captain John Berry & Mr. Michael Smith, have bargained, sould, and sett over unto the said John Berry & Michael Smith, a certaine parsell of land lying & being at the head of Christian Barbados neck neer Marepeeke & a runne of water comonly called Tantaqua's creeke, the said land being comonly called Asthacking, running from a black oake tree (marked) that stands on the hill neer the said creeke, on a northwest & by west line a little westerlye unto Saddle river beyond and over the southeasterley branch that emptyeth itselke into the said river, & from thence to runne as the said river runns (towards Passaiwick river), soe farre as doth now or hath heertofore belonged or appertained to any of us or our relations, together with all timber, timber-trees, marshes, & medowes, swamps, mines, minerales, hunting, fishing, fowling, & all other appurtenances, proffittes, advantages, theerunto belonging or any wayes appertaining, which said lands, the said John Berry & Michael Smith did formerly buy of ye aforesaid Tantaqua, who had noe right to sell the same, To have & to hold the aforementioned premises with all & every theer appurtenances unto the said John Berry & Michael Smith, theer heires, executors, administrators, and assignes for ever, And wee, the aforesaid Coorang, Maemsey, Rawatones, Anasan, and Matachera, doe for ourselves, our heires & relations, promis & ingage to maintaine & defend the said John Berry & Michael Smith in the peaceable & quiet possession of the said land & premises against any other Indian natives whatsoever. In wittnes whereof wee have heerunto sett our handes & seales this fifteenth day of July, one thousand six hundred seaventy-nine.

Sealed & signed by Coorang, Rawatones, and Anasan, in presence of us. EDWARD HOWELL, ALBRIDT ZABOROWSKIJ, Interpreter.	the marke of COORANG,        + RAWATONES,       + his mark. ANASAN,            + his marke. MAMESEY,          + his mark.
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The indorsement on the back of the deed is as follows :

19 July, 1686.

Entered upon the public records of the province of East New Jersey, in  
 Lib. A, folio 328. JA. EMOTT, Sec.

## SKETCH OF THE LOTT FAMILY.

BY JEREMIAH LOTT.

1776-1861.

THE following historical sketch was written by Mr. Jeremiah Lott, in 1858, at the request of Mrs. Gertrude L. Vanderbilt, who has embodied it in the valuable and readable book on the "Social History of Flatbush" that she has just published. We consider it of sufficient importance, on account of the intimate connection of the Lott and Zabriskie families, to reproduce it here.

Peter Lott, from whom all the families of that name in this country have descended, emigrated from Europe in the year 1652, and settled in Flatbush, on Long Island, and was one of the patentees named in the patent granted by Lieutenant-Governor Thomas Dongan, in 1685, to the inhabitants of Flatbush.

It is the generally received opinion that the family came originally from England, but, by subsequent intermarriages, soon became fully identified with the Dutch. His wife's name was Gertrude, but of the date of their birth and marriage I have no information. They both died in Flatbush, and the death of Gertrude occurred in 1704.

Englebert Lott, their eldest son and my great-great-grandfather, was born in December, 1654, in this country, and was settled at New Castel,

on the west bank of the Delaware River, about thirty-five miles below Philadelphia. He was united in marriage, in 1680, with Cornelia de la Noy, who was of French extraction, and a resident of the city of New York. At the time of his marriage he owned a considerable tract of land and marsh on Christiana Creek, in New Castel County, and two lots in the town of New Castel.

This property he continued to hold for several years subsequent to his removal on Long Island, but eventually disposed of it by deed, on the first day of September, 1707, to Abraham Stantfort, John Harberdinck, and Jane Tuttle.

Toward the close of the year 1682, New Castel, with the adjacent territory, became united with the Province of Pennsylvania, under William Penn.

Shortly after this union was effected, he took the oath of allegiance, and promising fidelity and lawful obedience to William Penn, Esq., the Proprietor and Governor of that province, in compliance with an act passed at Chester by the Colonial Legislature of Pennsylvania.

He was on terms of intimacy and friendship with Governor Penn, who held out strong inducements for him to remain at New Castel; but the unhealthiness of the place and surrounding country, together with an ejectment suit which had been several years depending before the Court of Sessions, then held at Gravesend, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, on Long Island, in which Derick Jansen Hoghlant was plaintiff, and his father, Peter Lott, defendant, he was induced to remove.

In 1682, with his wife Cornelia, he came to Flatbush, on Long Island, with a view to make it his permanent residence, and purchased a house and about two acres of land, situated on the easterly side of the road in Flatbush, and a short distance south of Erasmus Hall Academy, now the property of Teunis J. Bergen. In the month of December, in the same year of his removal, he and his wife Cornelia were admitted on certificate as mem



bers in full communion of the Reformed Dutch Church of Flatbush, then under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Casparus Van Zuren. In 1688, he hired, for farming purposes, from the church of Flatbush, a tract of land situated on the south side of the road leading to New Lots, and north of the land of John Stryker, with the salt-meadows thereto appertaining, for the term of seven years, at the yearly rent of two hundred and twenty-five guilders, payable in sewant, or in wheat, to be delivered at Brooklyn Ferry at the current price. In 1709, he disposed of his house and two acres of land, and purchased from Daniel Polhemus and Neltie, his wife, the southerly one-third part of the farm of the late Rev. Johannes Theodorus Polhemus, the first minister of the Reformed Dutch churches in Kings County.

In 1698, he was appointed high sheriff of the County of Kings, by Richard, Earl of Bellomont, Governor of the Province of New York. This office he held during the administration of Governor Bellomont, which was but for one year, and until Governor Nanfan assumed the colonial government of New York.

He lived on his farm until the time of his death, which I am inclined to think occurred in the year 1728, at the age of seventy-four years.

He left two sons, Abraham Lott, my great-grandfather, and Johannes Lott, the ancestor of Lammetie Lott, the wife of Peter Wyckoff. Jannetie Lott, the wife of John Stryker, and Antie Lott, the wife of William Williamson. Johannes Lott, their ancestor, died in the year 1732.

Abraham Lott, the eldest son of Englebert Lott, my great-grandfather, was born in Flatbush on the 7th day of September, 1684. In the early part of his life he went several voyages on board of a trading vessel to the West Indies, as supercargo, and, probably, part owner.

On the 15th day of November, 1709, he was united in marriage with Catharine Hegeman, the daughter of Elbert Hegeman, of New Lots, and from that time lived with and cultivated the farm of his father, Englebert

Lott, in Flatbush. Catharine Hegeman, his wife, was born on the 11th day of November, 1691, and died on the 19th day of November, 1741, aged fifty years and eight days. Upon the death of his father, he became the owner of his father's farm, which he had previously cultivated.

This farm was by him afterward devised to his son, Jacobus Lott, who held it during his lifetime, and upon his death it was sold to Hendrick Suydam, and is now in possession of Sarah Suydam, the wife of John Ditmas.

In May, 1370, my great-grandfather, Abraham Lott, obtained by purchase from the widow and children of Daniel Polhemus, then deceased, the northerly two-thirds part of the Polhemus farm, and by this purchase, with the previous devise to him of his father's farm, became possessed of all the land, woodland, and meadows originally patented by Governor Peter Stuyvesant to the Rev. Johannes Theodorus Polhemus.

In the year 1743 he was elected a representative from the County of Kings in the Colonial Legislature of New York, and served in that capacity one legislative term of seven years, and, upon his reëlection, commenced another term, but did not live to see its termination.

He died on the 29th day of July, 1754, aged nearly seventy years. He left three sons, Jacobus, Englebert, and Abraham, and one daughter named Cornelia, who was married to John Vanderveer, of Keuter's Hook.

Jacobus Lott, his eldest son, was married to Teuntie De Hart, the daughter of Simon De Hart, and lived in Flatbush on the farm purchased by his grandfather, Englebert Lott, of Daniel Polhemus and Neltie, his wife, and died in possession of the same, leaving several sons and daughters. Englebert Lott, his second son and my grandfather, was married to Maritie Ditmas, the daughter of Johannes Ditmas and Helena Ditmas, and lived on the farm purchased by his father, Abraham Lott, of the widow and children of Daniel Polhemus, deceased, leaving children as hereinafter mentioned. Abraham Lott, his youngest son, was married to Gertrude

Coeyeman, the daughter of Andrew Coeyeman, and commenced mercantile business in the city of New York, which he carried on for many years. He occasionally officiated as Clerk of the Colonial Assembly, and was subsequently appointed Treasurer of the Colony of New York, which office he held until the year 1776.

He died in New York, at an advanced age, leaving one son named Andrew, and four daughters, Catharine, Gertrude, Cornelia, and Hannah. Andrew Lott was married to a daughter of Peter Goelett, Catharine Lott was married to Colonel William Livingston, and Cornelia Lott to Comfort Sands, and Gertrude Lott and Hannah Lott remained unmarried.

Englebert Lott, the son of Abraham Lott, and my grandfather, was born in Flatbush on the 7th day of May, 1719, and lived with his father, Abraham Lott; and, when he purchased the northerly part of the Polhemus farm, removed with him thereon, and continued to cultivate it during his father's lifetime, and, upon the death of his father, became the owner thereof.

On the 14th day of December, 1742, he was united in marriage with Maritie Ditmas, the daughter of Johannes Ditmas and Helena Ditmas. Maritie Ditmas, his wife, was born on the 8th day of January, 1723, and died on the 27th day of April, 1797, in the seventy-fifth year of her age.

He was at one time the principal land surveyor in the County of Kings, and also held the office of one of the Judges of Common Pleas in the county.

During his lifetime he conveyed to his son, Johannes E. Lott, my father, his farm in Flatlands, which he had purchased, with his father, Abraham Lott, of Aert Willemse, and, by his last will and testament, devised to my father the residue of his real estate. He died in Flatbush on the 17th day of November, 1779, during the War of the Revolution, in the sixty-first year of his age. He left three sons, Johannes, Abraham, and Englebert. His son, Johannes E. Lott, my father, upon his first marriage,

removed on the farm in Flatlands, purchased by his father, Englebert Lott, leaving children as hereinafter mentioned. Abraham E. Lott and Englebert Lott, his two remaining sons, were merchants in New York, and continued the mercantile business until the commencement of hostilities between this country and Great Britain in 1776, and returned to Flatbush a few months previous to the landing of the British army in that year. Upon the capture of Long Island by the British forces under General Howe, the greater part of the inhabitants of Flatbush left their homes, and went into Queen's County.

In this flight, Abraham E. Lott and Englebert Lott were pursued, and overtaken at Flushing.

Englebert Lott was taken prisoner, and brought back to Flatbush, then in possession of the British army, and confined in Flatbush church, but was soon set at liberty on his parole. He remained in Flatbush, and attended to the public business of the town and county, and was occasionally engaged in surveying and conveyancing. While engaged in public business at the tavern of Dr. Hendrick Van Beuren, now the tavern of Suydam Stellenwerf, he was suddenly attacked with apoplexy, and died at that place, on the 29th day of November, 1779, in the twenty-sixth year of his age, and only twelve days after the death of his father, Englebert Lott.

Abraham E. Lott, the remaining brother, escaped from his pursuers by secreting himself in a cornfield, and, when they had abandoned their search, he went to the shore, and crossed the Long Island Sound over to the Westchester side. From thence he proceeded through the city of New York, and on his journey meeting with the late Elkanah Watson, they both went to the South, and arrived at Edenton, in North Carolina. At that place he carried on the mercantile business, under the firm of Lott & Payne. After the termination of the War of the Revolution, he was about making preparations to leave Edenton for New York, but was suddenly cut off by death before his designs were accomplished. He died in Edenton,





at the house of Mr. John Green, on the 4th day of March, 1785, in the thirty-seventh year of his age.

Johannes E. Lott, the eldest son of Englebert Lott, and my father, was born in Flatbush on the 1st day of September, 1746. During his minority he lived with his father, and assisted in the cultivation of the farm, having previously received such education as the country schools at that time afforded.

On the 3d of May, 1766, he was united in marriage with his first wife, Adriantie Voorhees, the daughter of Adrian Voorhees, and moved on the farm in Flatlands, which he then purchased of his father, Englebert Lott. Adriantie Voorhees, his first wife, was born on the 4th day of September, 1746, and died on the 21st day of October, 1773, aged twenty-seven years, one month, and five days. By this first marriage he had one son named Englebert, and a daughter named Phebe. His son, Englebert Lott, on his marriage, was settled on a farm in New Utrecht, near the Bath House, where he died, leaving a widow, four sons, and three daughters. Phebe Lott died in a single state. After the death of his first wife, Adriantie Lott, he was again united in marriage, on the 12th day of January, 1775, with Catharine Vanderbilt, the daughter of Jeremiah Vanderbilt and Sarah Vanderbilt. Catharine Vanderbilt was born on the 13th day of February, 1757, and died on the 23d day of October, 1840, aged eighty-three years, eight months, and ten days. He continued to live with his second wife, Catharine Vanderbilt, on his farm in Flatlands, until the death of his father, Englebert Lott, in 1779, when he removed on the farm of his father in Flatbush, which his father had devised to him by will. He was chosen one of the six delegates from the County of Kings to attend the Provincial Congress, held in the city of New York, in the year 1776. Upon the expected landing of the British army on Long Island in the same year, he left Flatbush and went to Cedar Swamp, in Queens County, to the house of his brother-in-law, Rem Hegeman, where he had previously sent his

wife, Catharine, for safety. They remained there until the British had taken possession of New York, and the army left the Island, when they returned to their home in Flatlands. Upon the restoration of peace, and the acknowledgment of the independence of the United States of America, he was chosen a member of Assembly from this county, which met in New York in 1784. He was appointed the first Surrogate of the County of Kings, under the Constitution of the State of New York, which he held, with that of the office of one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, until his appointment to the office of First Judge of that court. He held the office of First Judge from the year 1793 until his resignation in 1801. From that time he attended to his domestic duties, and died, in the midst of his usefulness, on the 13th day of August, 1811, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. By his wife Catharine he left three sons, Jeremiah, John, and Abraham, and two daughters, Maritie and Sarah. Jeremiah Lott and his wife and children are hereinafter mentioned.

John Lott, the second son, after receiving his education at Erasmus Hall Academy, was brought up as a farmer, and, on his marriage with Elizabeth Garretson, the daughter of Samuel Garretson, of Gravesend, in 1799, settled on the farm in Flatbush purchased by his father of the heirs of Philip Nagel, deceased, and of which he became fully possessed on his father's death. John Lott died in February, 1858, in the eightieth year of his age. He had two sons, John I. Lott and Samuel G. Lott, who were both married, having families. John I. Lott died previously to his father, and the other son, Samuel G. Lott, is still living, and resides on his farm in Flatbush, purchased of Abraham Vanderveer.

Abraham Lott, the third son, was also brought up and educated like his brother John Lott, and, on his first marriage with Maria Lott, the daughter of Jeromas Lott, of Flatlands, in 1805, settled on the farm in Flatlands, of which he became the owner on his father's death. By this marriage he had one son, John A. Lott, who, after receiving a collegiate education, was



bred to the law, and which profession he diligently followed, until he was elected one of the Justices of the Supreme Court, in which office he is now officiating. Upon the death of his first wife, Maria Lott, he married, a second time, Jane Voorhees, the widow of Lawrence Voorhees, and daughter of Samuel Garretson, of Gravesend, and then purchased the farm on which she lived of Van Brunt Magaw and Adriantie Voorhees, his wife, and on which he then moved. Upon the death of his second wife, he was again married, for the third time, to Lavinia Betts, but left no children by the two last marriages.

In November, 1840, he died, in the fifty-seventh year of his age. Maritie Lott, the eldest daughter, was born on the 10th day of October, 1781, and was married to Jacob Van Pelt, of New Utrecht, on the 19th day of August, 1802, and lived at New Utrecht until her death, which occurred in the year 1852, leaving a son, John L. Van Pelt, and a daughter, Gertrude Van Pelt. Gertrude died after her mother, in the year 1857. Jacob Van Pelt, the father, died several years ago. Sarah Lott, the youngest daughter, was born on the 10th day of October, 1795. On the 10th day of February, 1817, she was married to John Vanderbilt, and lives on the place in Flatbush where her mother, Catharine Lott, was born. Her husband, John Vanderbilt, died in June, 1842, leaving her with three sons, John Vanderbilt, Jeremiah L. Vanderbilt, and Abraham L. Vanderbilt, and two daughters, Catharine Vanderbilt and Sarah Vanderbilt. The eldest son, John Vanderbilt, is married to Gertrude Phebe Lefferts, the daughter of John Lefferts, deceased.

Jeremiah L. Vanderbilt, Abraham L. Vanderbilt, and Sarah Vanderbilt are unmarried, and Catharine Vanderbilt was married to Richard L. Schoonmaker, since deceased, leaving an only daughter surviving her, named Ella Schoonmaker.

Jeremiah Lott, the eldest son of Johannes E. Lott by the second marriage with Catharine Vanderbilt, was born in Flatlands on the 14th day of

October, 1776, and removed to the farm in Flatbush, with his father and mother, upon the death of Englebert Lott in 1779. The first part of his education he received under the instruction of Gabriel Ellison, then the schoolmaster of the village school in Flatbush. When Gabriel Ellison left Flatbush in 1790, he entered Erasmus Hall Academy, and acquired his English and classical education in that institution, which he left in 1793. Upon finishing his education as far as academical instruction would permit, he went on the farm of his father.

At the age of twenty years he commenced the business of land surveying and conveyancing, which he followed for about thirty-five years, and was at one time the only county surveyor. In 1801 he was appointed Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Kings, and held that appointment uninterruptedly for the period of forty-two years. In the year 1814 he was the member of Assembly representing this county in the State Legislature. In the years 1821, 1822, and 1839 he served in the same capacity. He held the office of Surrogate successively for the period of nineteen years, and to which he was first appointed in the year 1814.

In the War of 1812 with Great Britain he held a captain's commission in the Flatbush company of militia. In September, 1814, he was called, with his company, into the United States service, under Brigadier-General Johnson, and stationed at Fort Green in Brooklyn. During all this time he cultivated the farm in Flatbush on which he now lives, and which was devised to him by his father, Johannes E. Lott, and is the same farm which his great-grandfather, Abraham Lott, obtained by purchase of the widow and children of Daniel Polhemus in 1730, having been owned and occupied by four successive generations in direct lineal descent. On the 17th day of January, 1805, he became united in marriage with Lydia Lloyd, the daughter of Bateman Lloyd, formerly of Salem County in West New Jersey. Lydia Lloyd was born in Woodstown, in the County of Salem, on the 20th day of November, 1785.

By this marriage with Lydia Lloyd he has two daughters, both having families. The eldest daughter, Catharine L. Lott, was born on the 17th day of October, 1807, and married on the 16th day of February, 1829, to John A. Lott, the son of Abraham Lott, deceased. They now have five children living, three sons, Abraham Lott, John Z. Lott, and Jeremiah Lott, and two daughters, Abby Lloyd Lott and Maria Jane Lott.

Abraham Lott, the eldest son, is married to Gertrude Bergen, the daughter of John C. Bergen, and has one son, named John A. Lott.

Abby Lefferts Lott, the second daughter, was born on the 12th day of April, 1811, and was married, on the 13th day of October, 1830, to John B. Zabriskie, the son of the late Rev. John L. Zabriskie, of Millstone, in the State of New Jersey.

Her husband, John B. Zabriskie, died on the 8th day of February, 1848, leaving her with five children, three sons, John Lloyd Zabriskie, Jeremiah Lott Zabriskie, and Nicholas Lansing Zabriskie, and two daughters, Harriet Lydia Zabriskie and Sarah Barrea Zabriskie; and all reside in Flatbush.

JEREMIAH LOTT.

FLATBUSH, *June 1, 1853.*

#### RECAPITULATION.

Peter Lott, the first ancestor, came from Europe in.....	1652
Gertrude Lott, his wife, died in.....	1704
Englebert Lott, the eldest son of Peter Lott, was born in.....	1654
And married Cornelia de la Noy in.....	1680
And died in.....	1728
Abraham Lott, the eldest son of Englebert Lott, was born in.....	1684
And married Catharine Hegeman in.....	1709
And died in.....	1754

Englebert Lott, the second son of Abraham Lott, was born in.....	1719
And married Maritie Ditmas in.....	1742
And died in.....	1779
Johannes E. Lott, the eldest son of Englebert Lott, was born in....	1746
And married Adriantie Voorhees, his first wife, in.....	1766
And married Catharine Vanderbilt, his second wife, in.....	1775
And died in.....	1811

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